

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 477.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1854.

[PRICE 6d.]

PATRON, H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT.
ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION
—Continued improvements, increased attractions, fresh decorations. Re-lighted under the Patents of John Leslie, Esq.
The LAST EVENING of Miss GLYN'S Readings; MACBETH, on Thursday, the 21st, at Eight.
LECTURES ON CHEMISTRY, by J. H. PEPPEL, Esq.
LECTURE ON NINEVEH, by Mr. COOPER, the Artist and Companion of LAYARD, illustrated by PANORAMIC VIEWS taken by himself.
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A BEAUTIFUL SERIES OF FORTY-FIVE COSMORAMIC VIEWS OF RUSSIA and the COSTUMES of the Inhabitants.
The DISSOLVING VIEWS maintain their old reputation, with Scenes of the War, Sebastopol, &c.
The OXY-HYDROGEN MICROSCOPE, as usual.
The LARGE THEATRE is open on Saturday Evenings, from Half-past Seven till Ten, with Mr. CRAWFORD'S VOCAL Illustrations of the PATRIOTIC SONGS of SCOTLAND, the AMERICAN ENTERTAINMENT, and Mr. WAUD'S BAND.
Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. and 3s.; Schools and Children under Ten years of age, half-price.

A SPLENDID OPTICAL DIORAMA, with NOVEL PHANTASMAGORIA EFFECTS, illustrating the VOYAGES of SINBAD the SAILOR, is in PREPARATION, with VARIOUS OTHER NOVELTIES, for CHRISTMAS.

CHAPEL to LET, Peter-street, Wardour-street, Soho. Will hold 400 to 500. Net Rent, £20 per annum.—Apply to JOHN BOWEN, Upholsterer, 2, Tichborne-street, Haymarket.

MANSION WANTED, for a Gentleman's School, capable of accommodating Eighty or One Hundred boys. It must have at least six or twelve acres of land attached, be within easy reach of a first-class railway station, and be situated west or north-west of London.—Apply by letter to Y., at the Office of this paper.

TO BOOT and SHOE MAKERS and LEATHER CUTTERS.—An Excellent Business to be disposed of immediately. Situated in High-street, Hyde, Isle of Wight.—Apply to W. GREEN, High-street, Hyde.

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WANTED by a Lady, aged 38, a member of a Christian Church, a SITUATION as companion to an elderly lady, and to be otherwise useful, or to take charge of a young family.—Apply to E. W. M., 18, Ridley-villas, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED a Devoted Servant of Christ, to take the PASTORATE of a SMALL BAPTIST CHURCH, and to devote a portion of his time as Town Missionary, in a populous Town in the Staffordshire potteries, where a large field is open for energetic and zealous labour. One who has been accustomed to labour in the Word amongst a manufacturing community would be most likely to suit.—Application to be made to Mr. ELIJAH JONES, or Mr. L. J. ABINGTON, Hanley.

AS HOUSEMAID, a Young Woman wants a SITUATION. She is 23 years of age, and can be well recommended, and wishes to engage herself to a religious family.—Address, post paid, to S. W., 15, Hill-street, Peckham.

A YOUNG LADY of decided Nonconformist principles, wishes for a RE-ENGAGEMENT as Governess, in a family where the children are under twelve years of age. She is competent to impart a sound English education with the rudiments of French.—Address H. W., Nonconformist Office, 69, Fleet-street.

MORNING GOVERNESS.—Wanted, after Christmas, a thoroughly efficient MORNING GOVERNESS. Competent to teach Music, French (grammatically and conversationally), and the usual branches of a good English education.—Apply, stating age, attainments, and amount of salary required, to Mrs. J., care of Mrs. Medes, Stationer, Canterbury.

TO GRADUATES, &c.—Wanted, a Graduate of a University, who must be a good classical scholar, and of active habits, to undertake the Second Mastership of a school. Work light and no play-ground duty. Salary, £200 to £300, with Board, according to qualifications.—Address, 100, Nonconformist-office, London.

EDITORIAL.—A gentleman of thoroughly Liberal principles, and a staunch Voluntary, long connected with the provincial press, is open to an ENGAGEMENT.—Address, LILBURN, Castle and Lamb's Advertising Office, Bull-head-court, Newgate-street, London.

SPACIOUS SCHOOLROOMS.—To be LET, large and well-lighted Schoolrooms, adjoining the Silver-street Chapel, Bayswater, situated in a densely populated neighbourhood, where a British School is much required.—Apply to the Rev. J. B. BRUSTED, Hardwick Lodge, Moscow-road, Bayswater.

SCHOLASTIC.—The Proprietor of a Commercial, Mathematical, and Classical Academy, is desirous of obtaining an ASSISTANT. A pious Young Man who understands practically the system of the Borough-road School, or some Institution similarly conducted, would be preferred. The probability of an approved Assistant's becoming in a short time a partner with the Principal (now 63 years of age), with opportunities very favourable for mental culture, render this a desirable situation. A good Premium is required.—Apply by letter, or personally, to E. C., care of Messrs. Relfe, Brothers, School Bookellers, 150, Aldersgate-street, London.

TO CAPITALISTS—PAPER TRADE.—Two YOUNG MEN, engaged in a manufacturing trade, have an opportunity presented to them by which, in the working of a Patent for the production of an article connected with the paper trade, a large and highly remunerative return may be made. For this, additional capital to the extent of from £600 to £2000 is wanted, and for which an enhanced interest will be paid, or a share of the profits secured to any one prepared to advance that sum. Full particulars, as to the stability of the undertaking and most satisfactory references as to the character of parties, to be had on application to A. B., Nonconformist Office, Fleet-street, London.

CONGREGATIONAL BOARD.—TIDMAN versus AINSLIE.—At the Monthly Meeting, held December 12, 1854, the Rev. George Rogers in the chair. It was resolved unanimously:—"That this Board resolves to learn that the action for libel in the above case has terminated in favour of the plaintiff; the defendant making a public apology to the plaintiff and consenting to pay all costs. That the Board deem it incumbent to offer to the Rev. Dr. Tidman the expression of its deepest sympathy with him under the unprovoked attack with which his public character has been assailed; to express him of its gratification and delight at the issue of the trial, which, while it may have been necessary for his vindication before the world, was not necessary to satisfy the board of his entire innocence of every charge alleged against him; and to give utterance to its desire and prayer that his valuable life may be long spared to his family, to this board and especially to the London Missionary Society which he so honourably represents and so faithfully serves." Signed { GEORGE ROGERS, Chairman. ROBERT ASHTON, Secretary.

SNOWFIELDS SUNDAY-SCHOOL and PREACHING STATION, SNOWFIELDS, BERNONDESEY. The Committee of the above-mentioned Institution beg respectfully to lay before the public, the following particulars:—In October, 1849, two friends engaged in Christian instruction (by visiting), opened in Suffolk-place, Snowfields, a small house, which was used for twelve months as a Sunday-school and Preaching Station for the very poor. At the end of that period, the house had become too small, and with the assistance of others, they hired a shed at the corner of Suffolk-place, which they have continued to use until the present time. During this period, their operations have been as far as practicable of an educational, as well as religious character; by the establishment of evening classes (formerly for children, and now for adults), and by the establishment of a loan library. This shed being very dilapidated, an attempt was made in 1852-53 to ascertain how far assistance might be expected in raising a new school-room on a piece of ground in the immediate neighbourhood, but failing to make terms with the lessors of the ground, the project was postponed. The conveniences of the school and the necessities of the neighbourhood seem, however, now to require more than a mere school-room, and it is proposed to raise a fund for the erection of a building, which can be used for lectures and other literary purposes, and for all the wants of religious and educational institutes. To effect this, five or six hundred pounds will be required, and the reader is respectfully solicited to contribute to the fund for raising the same.

The undermentioned gentlemen, to whom the Institution is well known, consent to allow their names to be published as recommending the same. And an article in the "Nonconformist" of December 6th, 1854, is also a kind and generous plea in its behalf.

R. L. and J. Fennings, Esqs., Fenning's Wharf, London-bridge; Thomas Pillow, Esq., 1, Wellington-chambers, London-bridge; William Heptinstall, Esq., Springfield, Clapham-park; Henry Webb, Esq., 25, Osborne-terrace, Clapham-road. Donations and subscriptions will be thankfully received by Thomas Pillow, Esq., Treasurer, 1, Wellington-chambers, London-bridge; also at the office of the "Nonconformist," Fleet-street. Post-office orders to be made payable to Thomas Pillow; and Bankers' Cheques to be crossed London and Westminster Bank, Borough Branch.

TO ADVERTISERS—THE POLITICAL ANNUAL for 1855.—"The only work of the kind published." It is patronised by Members of Parliament, Political Associations, the Clubs, Literary Institutions, the Principal Hotels and Reading-rooms, and may be had at the Railway Stations and of all Booksellers. It is in frequent use throughout the year, and as a means of advertising is superior to most of the weekly or monthly publications. Advertisements should be immediately forwarded to the publisher, of whom prospectuses may be had. William Freeman, 69, Fleet-street, London.

TESTIMONIALS by PRESENTATION having become so much the custom, and in consequence of Messrs. FUTVOYE having been frequently applied to for suitable articles, they beg to state to all those who would pay such grateful tributes to public merit or private worth, that in all cases when it is clearly shown goods are required for such a purpose, and the amount exceeds £50, they shall allow 10 per cent. from their regular marked prices. 154, Regent-street, August 28, 1854.

THE MIDLAND SCHOOL, near COVENTRY. Apply to Mr. WYLES for a prospectus.

WEST OF ENGLAND DISSENTERS' PROPRIETARY SCHOOL, TAUNTON, will re-open, after the Christmas Vacation, on Tuesday, the 23rd of January, 1855. President: W. D. WILLS, Esq., Bristol. Vice-Presidents: R. ABB, Esq., H. O. WILLS, Esq., Bristol; J. P. SPENCER, Esq., Oakhill. Treasurer: S. POLLARD, Esq., Taunton. All applications for terms and the admission of Pupils, to be made to the Rev. T. CLARK, M.A., Principal, or to the Rev. J. S. UNDERWOOD, Corresponding Secretary, Taunton.

PORTLAND GRAMMAR SCHOOL, PLYMOUTH, conducted by Mr. R. F. WEYMOUTH, M.A. (of University College, London), M.R.S.A., &c. &c. assisted by well qualified and experienced Masters. The Course of Studies pursued at this Establishment is suitable as preparatory either for a College Course or for Professional or Commercial Life. The house is very healthy situated in the highest part of the town, and close to the northern outskirts, but at a convenient distance for sea-bathing. Terms, from 25 to 45 guineas per annum.

ESTABLISHMENT for YOUNG LADIES, 6, MORNINGTON-GREENT, REGENTS-PARK, conducted by the MRS. SMITH, who inform their friends that their scholastic duties for the present session will close on Tuesday, the 18th inst., and will be resumed January 26, 1855. The Pupils receive the most affectionate and liberal treatment, with careful religious and intellectual training. Professors are in attendance for Music, Singing, and Continental Languages. References to ministers and parents of pupils, and prospectuses, may be obtained from the Misses Smith; the Rev. J. C. HARRISON, 24, Queen's-road, Regent's-park; and the Rev. W. SPENCER EDWARDS, Gloucester-road, Regent's-park.—An ARTICLED PUPIL required at the close of the vacation.

EDUCATION for YOUNG LADIES, King-street, Leicester.—The MRS. WIAL, whose school has been established for many years, continues to receive a limited number of Young Ladies for Board and Education. They will have Vacations from February after the Christmas Vacation. The best masters are engaged for French, German, Drawing, Music, Singing, and Deportment. References:—Rev. G. Legge, L.L.D., Leicester; Rev. J. Sutcliffe, Manchester; Mr. Sunderland, Esq., Ashton-under-Lyne; Rev. J. G. Miall, Bradford; Rev. G. B. Miall, Ullesthorpe; Messrs. Miall, Esq., M.P., Sydenham Park, London.—Terms and full particulars on application. The ensuing quarter will commence on the 30th of January.

THE MILTON HALL ACADEMY, NORTHAMPTON. For the Education of Young Gentlemen. Conducted by Mr. J. DYER. A thoroughly English and Practical Education, with Latin and French. No extras of any kind. One sum includes every thing taught, books, washing, &c. The vacations are but one half of what are usually given. The dietary is most liberal in quantity, and best in quality, and every attention is paid to domestic comfort and moral training. Terms, 35 Guineas per annum. References, Dr. Robertson, Revs. J. Bennett, J. T. Brown, J. E. Ryland, Esq., M.A., Northampton, Rev. W. H. Dyer, Bath.

MRS. BAYNES (wife of the Rev. J. A. BAYNES), residing in Park-row, Nottingham, is desirous of receiving, after the Christmas Vacation, a few YOUNG LADIES as Boarders and Daily Pupils. While devoting her time and energy to their progress in Study she hopes to combine the social enjoyments of a home circle with the watchful training essential to the right formation of character. Terms inclusive. Among others to whom reference is kindly allowed are—The Hon. and Rev. B. W. Noel, M.A., Bayswater; The Rev. James Hamilton, D.D., F.R.S., Euston-square; W. Orlips, Esq., Bramcote, Nottinghamshire; W. Polkin, Esq., Nottingham; W. Vickers, Esq., Nottingham.

SALISBURY, WILTS.—The Rev. T. HANDS will Board and Educate a limited number of YOUNG GENTLEMEN. No effort will be spared to secure to the pupils the comforts and discipline of home, whilst their moral culture will be carefully attended to, as well as their mental and physical training. The course of instruction will be such as to ensure a sound and liberal education; and in addition to Mr. H.'s personal superintendence, the services of competent teachers will be secured for music and foreign languages. Terms, which are very moderate, may be known on application. References are kindly permitted to Revs. J. Angus, D.D., F.R.S., W. Brock, and F. Trestrail, London; Rev. T. Swan, Birmingham; J. Toome, Esq., Salisbury; and Mr. J. Keynes. The Quarter commences JANUARY 12, 1855.

VOLUNTARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.—THE DISTINCTIVE FEATURES of this Association are—That all Education should be religious but, at the same time, so FREE FROM SECTARIAN INFLUENCE, as to command the sympathy and co-operation of ALL DENOMINATIONS of EVANGELICAL CHRISTIANS; and that the STATE being incompetent to give such an Education to the people, should not interfere in the matter, but leave it entirely to VOLUNTARY EFFORT. Subscriptions and donations will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, G. W. ALEXANDER, Esq., 40, Lombard-street; or at the office of the Association, Walworth-place, Walworth, London.

HENRY RICHARD, JOSEPH BARRETT, 7, Walworth-place, Walworth.

J. TURNER & SON, CABINET, SOFA MANUFACTURERS, UPHOLSTERS, GENERAL FURNISHERS, 42, Great James-street, London. The Cottage or Mansion completely furnished in the most elegant style, at manufacturers' prices. Designs and Books gratis on application.

NEWSPAPER

PALMER-HOUSE ACADEMY,
HOLLOWAY-ROAD, ISLINGTON. Conducted by Rev. A. STEWART and SONS, assisted by Rev. GEORGE JONES, and other masters, whose object is to qualify their Pupils, by a good Classical, Mathematical, and Commercial Education, to occupy an honourable position in society. This Establishment will meet the views of Parents who are concerned about the moral and religious training of their Children. The length of time during which Mr. S. has been engaged in teaching, enables him to refer to a large circle of Parents whose children have been under his care. For a full Report of the School, on sending up for the last half-year, see *British Banner*, June 21, 1854. Prospectuses forwarded on application. School-business RECOMMENCES, THURSDAY, the 18th of JANUARY.

SYDENHAM-PERRY-HILL HOUSE
SEMINARY—Principal, Mrs. J. W. TODD.—This establishment offers a complete English education; the best instruction in Latin, German, Italian, and French, by native professors; and Drawing, Painting, Music, &c. by the First masters. The system of Tuition pursued recognises the diversified native capabilities of the pupils and is adapted to develop their individual energies and give them confidence in exercising their own powers of thought and enquiry—and, by forming their characters on the basis of intelligent religious principle, to fit them for their missions and responsibilities in life. The Mansion and grounds are elevated and secluded—situate in a most lovely and healthy locality—and in a position to command all the educational advantages furnished by the PALACE OF ART. Full particulars by Post.

Referees:—H. Brown, Esq., M.P., Tottenham; Aspley Fellat, Esq., M.P., Staines; Mrs. Clara L. Balfour, Paddington; the Rev. Dr. Redford, Worcester; Dr. Andrews, Northampton; Thomas Thomas, Pontypool College; F. Trestrail, Secretary to the Baptist Mission; A. M. Stalker, Leeds; J. P. Murrell, Leicester; S. J. Davis, London; T. Winter and G. H. Davis, Bristol; J. J. Brown, Reading; C. J. Middleitch and S. Manning, Frome; J. Purser, Esq., Rathmines Castle, Dublin; J. Toone, Esq., Salisbury; Daniel Pratt, Esq., London; H. and W. Todd, Esqrs., Dublin; J. C. Salisbury, Esq., City Road.

SCRIPTURE-READERS TO THE SEAT OF WAR.
SOLDIERS' FRIEND AND ARMY
SCRIPTURE-READERS' SOCIETY.
Patrons:—The Right Hon. the Lord R. Grosvenor, M.P. The Right Hon. the Earl of Carlisle, K.G. The Right Hon. the Earl of Kintore. The Viscount EBRINGTON.
President—The Rev. Dr. MARSH.
Office—15, EXETER HALL, STRAND, LONDON.

The Committee of this Society have much pleasure in informing their Friends and the Christian Public, that they have appointed the Rev. George Campbell, B.A., Incumbent of St. Mark's, Swindon, Wilts, as Superintendent of the Scripture-Readers of this Society now engaged at the Seat of War, who has obtained leave of absence to enter upon that appointment from the Bishop of Bath and Wells, and who will in the course of a few days leave England for the East.

The Committee have now sixteen Scripture-readers engaged in the spiritual benefit of our troops, and they hope that shortly the number may be considerably increased, as the demand is at the present far from being met, even by the number the Committee have been enabled to appoint.

The deeply-interesting accounts received from the Agents of the Society at the Seat of War, containing numerous instances of usefulness, and showing the necessity of the effort employed by the Society, call for the most devout gratitude to the Lord for the blessing He has been pleased to vouchsafe, and also, for renewed and more extensive exertion in a cause so full of Evangelical benevolence, and so much needed.

The Committee are encouraged, by the liberal response of their Friends and the Christian Public, to the several appeals they have made for assistance in the great and responsible enterprise in which they are engaged, and although their responsibilities are continually increasing, yet would they not shrink from any sphere of duty, however onerous, believing that their work is of the Lord, and that He will not suffer their energies to be restricted for the want of necessary funds. The Committee would, therefore, most earnestly entreat of their Friends and the Christian Public not to relax in their efforts, but still to aid them both by their Christian sympathy and liberality.

The Home Operations of the Society are continued with pleasing and satisfactory results, of the labours of the Agents. This department of labour has been continued and increasing for years. The Committee gladly avail themselves of every opportunity to increase their Agency in this sphere of duty.

The Committee have much pleasure in stating, that they have voted £20 to the Paris and Marseille Tract Society, for the Publication of Tracts for the Use of the French Army going to the Crimea.

Donations of Books and Tracts are respectfully requested by the Committee, as considerable expense is necessarily incurred by the Society for the supply of all the Agents at home and abroad.

CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED SINCE LAST ADVERTISEMENT:—					
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
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Miss Aytoun (collected			Lady Newark	5	0 0
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Captain York	0	10 0	Mrs. Ellison	1	0 0
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Bibles	2	0 0	Miss Baker	1	10 0
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Books and Tracts	3	0 0	Mrs. Wheeler	1	0 0
Mrs. Clark	0	10 0	Rev. D. Wheeler	1	0 0
A Friend	0	10 0	Per Rev. J. East		
Rev. J. S. Austin	1	0 0	Miss Green	1	0 0
R. G.	0	5 0	Miss Wylie	10	0 0
A Friend, E. M.	5	0 0	Miss Meyrick	8	0 0
A Friend	2	0 0	Per Rev. T. G. Smith		
John Lee, Esq.	1	0 0	Mrs. Southcourt	0	10 0
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A. R. A.	10	0 0	P. A.	0	10 0
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A Friend, per Rev. W.			M. E. S.	0	16 0
Marrable	2	0 0			

Contributions will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, G. Burns, Esq., 17, Porteus-road, Paddington; by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. William A. Blake, at the Office, 15, Exeter Hall; by Rev. Dr. Marsh, Beckenham; by Messrs. Nibbet, Berners-street, Oxford-street; Lieutenant Blackmore, 6, Seymour-place, New-road; by the bankers, Royal British Bank, 439, Strand; and at the offices of the *Record*, and *Christian Times*.

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This Society offers a secure and safe mode for the investment of large or small sums of money, the security for which is unquestionable, the funds being all advanced upon Freehold, Copyhold, or Leasehold Property.

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SHARES.—There are three descriptions of subscribing shares, namely:—£20, £50, £100. A £20 share requires the payment of 4s. per month for ten years. A £50 share of 5s. per month for 12 years, or of 10s. for 7 years. A £100 share of 10s. per month for 12 years, or of 20s. for 7 years.
Five per cent. compound interest allowed upon withdrawal.
Members can pay up Shares of £10, £25, £50, and £100 in full, and receive interest thereon half-yearly, with a share of the Profits in addition at the end of each year, which makes the interest now payable at 6½ per cent.

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DEPOSITS.—Persons may deposit sums of money of not less than £1 at a time, on which interest will be paid at the rate of Four per Cent. per annum.
Depositors may withdraw their money at any time, on giving the proper notice.

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The Society purchases freehold land in large estates, and, consequently, at an immensely lower rate than a small plot of the same land can be obtained. This land is allotted among the holders of £50 shares.

Shares may be taken, Prospectuses had, and information obtained at the Office of the Society, between the hours of ten and four, and on Wednesdays from ten to eight.

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CLASSES.

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VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 477.]

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

EDUCATION IN WALES.

We gave insertion, in our last number, to an abbreviated report of a Conference held at Merthyr Tydvil, about the beginning of the month, for the furtherance of education in the south of the Principality. If that report be correct, the Conference, convened by circular, was attended by "a goodly number of ministers and laymen from the counties of Monmouth, Brecon, and Glamorgan." The object of the Conference was stated to be, "the promotion of education in South Wales, according to the unsectarian principles of the British and Foreign School Society, with the aid of the Committee of Council on Education;" and an association was established to carry out this object. Some discussion appears to have taken place; but, if we may judge from the report itself, first inserted in a morning paper, none whatever was had on the expediency of abandoning reliance in future on voluntary effort in educational affairs. On this question the speaking was all on one side; and, inasmuch as the meeting was convened by circular, we infer that the Conference represented, not the general body of the friends of popular education in South Wales, but those of them only who were known to concur with the main object, as laid down by a previous meeting, held in February last, at Blauna.

What degree of importance we are to attach to the decisions of this Conference, we are not qualified to determine. We observe that only three counties out of the six of which South Wales consists, were represented on this occasion. "A goodly number of ministers and laymen" is a very indefinite description—we should have been better pleased if the report had furnished us with a list of the names of the gentlemen then present. We have no reason whatever to doubt their respectability, and we frankly admit that the names of those who are reported to have spoken, and also of those who were chosen as vice-presidents, are such as entitle them to our respect. But beyond this, we see nothing very impressive in this Conference—nothing in the methods of summoning and constituting it which give it the slightest representative weight—nothing in the outlines of the speeches reported indicating superior force of intellect or trustworthiness of judgment—nothing in the character of the facts referred to, that should alter our conclusions. This, we confess, may be owing to the meagreness of the report with which the public has been favoured—but we cannot help thinking that if the meeting had been one that promised large practical results, or even indicated an extensive change of opinions, fuller information would not have been withheld.

Taking the matter just as we find it, and being both willing and resolved to

"Nothing extenuate,
Nor set down aught in malice,"

we must declare that we can discover in this Conference no solid grounds for dismay. We always knew that in the Principality, as elsewhere, there was a "goodly number" of gentlemen who went with the stream of voluntarism in education, for precisely the same reason that they go with every stream that may chance to be pre-

dominant in force. We are now surprised that persons who are wanting in deep convictions, and who besides yield themselves easily to neighbouring influences, should be found revolving in some local eddies of opinion, or forced into a current of backwater, under circumstances which lead to their change of course an aspect of conversion. We can make full and charitable allowance for the impatience of men who have been impelled chiefly by hopes of great and immediate practical results and who, if they had been in the Crimea, would have been too exultant at Alma, and too despondent before Sebastopol. We are not by any means disposed to be angry that youthful zeal, a little too intemperate, should have been, in some instances, succeeded by premature despair, not a whit more reasonable. To try experiments and fail, has a depressing effect on the spirits, and men who are not sure of the soundness of the principles on which they work, are always apt to change their tools in the expectation of changing results. All this we have seen again and again in other public movements besides those relating to education—and hence, however much we may regret, we cannot affect surprise, that a "goodly number of ministers and laymen from the counties of Monmouth, Brecon, and Glamorgan," have arrived at conclusions unfavourable to the sufficiency of voluntary effort in the education of the people—nor can we regard the fact as possessing unusual significance.

Much less do we recognise in the facts put forward at this meeting grounds firm enough to sustain the conclusions arrived at. It is, no doubt, true, that the bulk of the money voted by Parliament for educational purposes, goes into the hand of the Church. It may be a fact that the Normal College of the Dissenters, in South Wales, has proved a failure, and that the schools founded in that part of the Principality have been failures also. Nay, more, it may be that the children of Dissenters are instructed in National Schools, and are trained, in many instances, to be schoolmasters and mistresses of the next generation. But if all this be so, we can see no necessary connexion between these facts, and the right of Government to interfere in educational matters. We have no ambition to lead away young admirers with our views—but with the honest intention of ascertaining the precise value of the above facts, and the bearing they have on the subject under notice, we are bound to observe that information must be given respecting other facts of which no notice whatever has been taken.

For example, before we can be seduced by our quondam disciples into a renunciation of our former views, we should like to know precisely how the cause of popular education stands in Wales. Do the parents of the poorer children in the south of the Principality generally recognise it as their duty to educate their offspring?—an obligation not less imperative upon them than to provide food and clothing for their little ones? If not, has the duty been properly enforced on them, and the cheerful performance of it stimulated and encouraged? It would seem to us that until the "goodly number of ministers and laymen" have systematically and perseveringly devoted themselves to excite a sense of individual parental responsibility in this matter, they have not fairly tested the capabilities of voluntary effort. But, perhaps, they have done so. Perhaps, there is not among the poorer classes in Wales an indisposition to secure education for their children, nor to make the sacrifices which they can be fairly called upon to make in obtaining it. Well, this brings us to another question—why did these willing parents not avail themselves of the voluntary schools, which are said to have been failures? Was it on account of their pecuniary inability? If so, did that inability relate merely to the payment of school fees, or did it include the sacrifice of wages which children can earn at work? Because, if the children of South Wales are detained from the schools provided for them by the necessitous condition of parents which obliges them to augment their weekly pittance by the earnings of young children, it is difficult to see

how government support of education will remedy that evil. But, perhaps, the sole obstacle to the success of these schools was the inability of parents to pay weekly fees. In that case, the next step to be taken, is the contribution of the rich to the aid of the poor. Has this generally failed in South Wales? Is there really among the competent classes an indifference to the work of education? And is government assistance to be resorted to as a last experiment, because popular education is so little valued in the Principality, that primary schools cannot be self-sustained? So grave is the reflection which an affirmative reply to the last inquiry would cast upon the Protestant Dissenters of South Wales, that we must excuse ourselves from accepting it until some further queries have been satisfactorily answered.

We are told that the Normal School has been a failure. Are we to understand that the failure is to be attributed to its not having availed itself of Government support? Has there been no mismanagement? Have its affairs been uniformly conducted with that regularity, prudence, and energy, which in all matters of business are usually deemed necessary to success. We do not know. The public have not been informed. But, assuredly, until the fact is made clear to us, we shall be slow to charge upon the voluntary principle results which, peradventure, may be only chargeable, with justice, on gross inattention to business habits—for nothing proves so swift a discouragement of philanthropic liberality, as the blunders of imbecility in distributing and applying its largesses. We are told, moreover, that the schools founded by Dissenters have proved failures. How many were they? Where were they? Why did they fail? Were they properly conducted? Unsectarian in constitution? Educationally efficient? If not, why not, and in what respects? These are all inquiries pertinent to the question at issue. The answer to them would materially affect the conclusion to be deduced from the facts put forward at the Conference. When full information shall have been supplied us, we shall be better able to judge whether we have reason for misgiving as to the soundness of our principles. Till then, we must be excused from rating at a higher value than it deserves, a local and not very inexplicable change of opinion.

We cannot conclude without remarking that the Protestant Dissenters of South Wales owe something to their own character in this matter. The very best refutation they can give of the necessity of government aid and interference in educational matters will be the establishment of good schools independent of both. And to do this, wisdom may be quite as requisite as liberality—more so. In every case seeming to invite or to claim neighbouring or public intervention and effort, let the real want to be supplied be first of all carefully ascertained. The social and moral idiosyncrasy of every place should be accurately noted, and the measures determined on should be adapted thereto. In some instances it will be perceived that intelligent supervision is needed far more than money—in some parental responsibility will need to be appealed to rather than Christian benevolence. Here, plans may be too sectarian—there, schoolmasters may be unequal to their post. In this great work, as in all others, common sense and discrimination are as indispensable as zeal and self-sacrifice—and we are sure that the men who have evangelised Wales can, if they will, secure for its people a good secular education.

THE MILTON CLUB.

THE pedestrian making his way down Ludgate-hill can scarcely have failed, during the last few days, to notice an addition to those disagreeable obstructions which impede his progress from St. Paul's to the Strand, in the shape of an unfinished scaffolding erecting in front of the house lately occupied by Messrs. Wilkinson and Co., and now the property of the Milton Club. These premises are now in the builders' hands. We have already adverted to the difficulties encountered by the manager of this Institution, in giving to it "a local

habitation," and have bespoken from those interested in the undertaking that patience and confidence in the members of the committee, which their name and business capacities may justly claim. The result of their labours is now partially developed. To the front premises in Ludgate-hill previously purchased by the committee, they have now added a considerable estate, bounded by St. Martin's-court, Stone-cutter-street, and Evangelist-court on the North and East, by Crescent-place on the West, and by Union-street on the South,—an estate which (says the *Patriot*), by the easy terms on which it has been purchased, by the compactness of its form and the number of approaches which it commands, by its intrinsic value as situated in the heart of the City and within the sphere of present or prospective improvements, and by the ample scope which it affords for carrying out the scheme of a hall and club on the most extended scale and with the completest arrangements,—will at once place the debenture-holders who have invested or may yet invest money in the undertaking, in a position of security, and even of advantage, which was not anticipated."

It would be a mistake, however, to infer, that the project can proceed to completion without further pecuniary aid. Keeping economy as well as efficiency in view, the committee have determined to confine themselves in the first place to the club. For this purpose, the premises extending backwards from Ludgate-hill, are already, in some respects, so well adapted, that, without entire reconstruction, they can be made to answer every needful end, until more extensive accommodation shall be demanded. We have inspected the plans of the architect; from which it appears, that, besides offices, ante-rooms, a spacious entrance-hall, &c., the ground-floor will contain a coffee and dining-room of large dimensions, and a commodious and well lighted news-room, with a smaller room for the magazines and reviews. A light and roomy staircase will conduct to the first floor, which will be laid out in a spacious library, and a suite of handsome drawing-rooms, besides subsidiary apartments. Over all these will extend a third floor, which will be distributed into bed-rooms for the accommodation of provincial members, and other offices, which may be turned in various ways to a useful account. It deserves notice, that, although the club will open upon the most crowded thoroughfare in London, the principal rooms, especially those devoted to reading, have been so arranged as, at the same time, to secure a good light and free ventilation, with the greatest amount of quiet.

For the present, then, the club and its dependent offices will be confined to the premises first purchased. For the hall these afford no room. It, at all events, must be provided for on some portion of the estate subsequently added to the property of the club. But to this there are several incidents, such as actual occupancy, unexpired leases, and probable public improvements, by which the committee must and ought to be guided in their movements. The leases, however, are on the point of expiring. Eventually, no doubt, the way will be smoothed for the erection of a hall and offices, of such convenient access on every side, together with so perfect a centrality of situation, as to become a source of unrivalled accommodation to all interested in the project, and of considerable profit to those whose capital shall be invested in its accomplishment.

It is hoped that the establishment will be ready for the accommodation of members by next May.

LIBERATION OF RELIGION SOCIETY.

BRADFORD.—The *Bradford Observer* contains a lengthened report of the Soirée in the saloon of St. George's Hall, Bradford, on the 7th instant. The spacious and elegant room was well filled by a respectable company of ladies and gentlemen, who first sat down to tea. Amongst the company, besides the deputation, were Mr. Ald. Brown, W. Milligan, Esq., B. Harrison, Esq., S. Kell, Esq., Councillor Kenion, Rev. Dr. Godwin, Rev. Dr. Acworth, Rev. J. G. Miall, Rev. H. Dowson, Rev. J. H. Ryland, Rev. J. P. Chown, Rev. D. Fraser, Rev. J. A. Savage, Rev. H. B. Creak, Rev. J. Aston, Rev. J. D. French, Rev. Jos. Shaw, Rev. D. Sim, Messrs. J. Glover, J. Cooke, Yates, W. Stead, Woodhead, W. Byles, J. Illingworth, A. Illingworth, T. W. Lord, W. Watson, Gandy, W. S. Nichols, Edmondson, &c. The chairman (Mr. Ald. Brown) announced that Mr. Milligan was so pressed with other engagements, in consequence of the meeting of parliament being so near, that he was obliged to forego the pleasure of being with them on that occasion. We can make room only for the following extract from the speech of Dr. Acworth:—"The local executive committee congratulated themselves on the auspicious meeting at which they were gathered. How very different it was in character and tone from the early meetings of the association. When this institution was first formed, instead of assembling in this secure and comfortable mode, they were closely watched by government agents, not to say by government spies. It was well understood at the time that parties were in the room who were anxiously watching every movement of the countenance and every utterance of the lip. There was the strongest reason to conclude that if there had been aught in their manner or their speech of which they could have laid hold, there would have been an indictment, an *ex-officio* information from the Attorney General. Not only were they closely watched by the government of the day, but they were traduced and vilified by the dominant sect of the country. Nor were they treated in the most kind or in the most genial spirit by those whose interests, in common with their own, they were seeking to promote. There were Dissenters, Nonconformists, who regarded their early movement with some degree of suspicion, whilst there were many others who passed them by with a kind of contemptuous disregard. Happily the scene was quite changed."

LEEDS.—On the 13th inst. Dr. Foster and Mr. Pryce attended a meeting at Leeds, which, we learn from the *Leeds Mercury*, was held in the Music Hall, considering the unpropitious state of the weather, and was very well attended. The chair was taken by Mr. Ald. John Wilson (late Mayor of Leeds); and the gentlemen present included: the Rev. W. Walters, of Halifax; the Rev. G. W. Conder, the Rev. R. Horsfield, Rev. J. H. Morgan, and the Rev. R. Brewer, Leeds; Rev. Dr. Maclay, New York; Mr. Edward Baines, Ald. Graham, Councillor Barran, and Messrs. T. E. Plint, James Anderson, E. Morgan, C. Heaps, J. Town, W. Heatson, J. Andrews, jun., &c., &c. Mr. Baines, Mr. Conder, Rev. W. Walters, and Mr. T. E. Plint, were, in addition to the deputation, the principal speakers.

WAKEFIELD.—A public meeting to promote the objects of the Society was held in the Music Saloon, Wakefield, on Thursday. The attendance, though not so numerous as was desirable, was nevertheless large and influential. C. J. Foster, Esq., LL.D., of London, and the Rev. S. P. Pryce attended as a deputation from the parent or central society to explain its objects and operations. On the platform, in addition to the deputation, we observed the Revs. John Bewglass, D.D., of Silcoates, Dr. Perry, J. Stuehbery, and J. S. Eastmead; E. A. Leatham, Esq., G. W. Harrison, Esq., and Mr. W. H. Lee; and in the body of the room the Rev. E. Higginson. Several of these gentlemen took part in the proceedings.—*Abridged from Wakefield Express.*

THE AUSTRALIAN CONSTITUTION BILLS AND ECCLESIASTICAL GRANTS.

A deputation from the Protestant Dissenting Deputies of the three denominations had an interview, on the 15th instant, with the Right Honourable Sir George Grey, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, in reference to the Australian Constitution Bills which have been sent over for Her Majesty's approval.

Mr. PELLATT stated, that the deputies were desirous of laying before Her Majesty's Government the objections which were felt, not only by parties in England, but also in the colonies, to an incorporation in the acts passed in the colonies of clauses compelling the raising of large sums for ecclesiastical purposes.

Sir GEORGE GRAY stated, that three acts had come over, and that a fourth was expected; and that as it appeared that the colonial legislature had exceeded their powers, an act of the Imperial legislature would be required to give them legal effect, and that he intended to introduce a bill on the subject next session.

Mr. GEORGE HADFIELD referred to a communication which he had received from the Rev. Richard Fletcher, of Melbourne, from which it appeared that a clause had been inserted in the Victoria act for raising annually £50,000 for ecclesiastical purposes; that such a clause was most unpopular in the colony, having been only carried by the votes of the nominee members of the legislative body there; and that it had been memorialized against.

Mr. J. R. MILLS referred to the 13th and 14th Vic., cap. lix., which was an act passed in 1850, for "the better government of her Majesty's Australian colonies," under which the sum of only £6,000 a-year was to be raised for public worship in Victoria colony, while under the act lately sent from thence, it was increased to £50,000 a-year; and that it was highly objectionable that a body which was composed not only of members elected from the colony, but included, moreover, members of the crown, should have attempted to interfere in a matter which should have been left to be dealt with by the free representative body which would shortly be chosen by the colonists themselves.

To a remark of Sir George Grey, that the present legislative body had power to deal with finances, Mr. MILLS replied that there could be no objection to their doing so in every respect when the legislative body had become the chosen representatives of the colonists.

Mr. BEDDOME suggested that it would be very undesirable to perpetuate in the new Acts for the colonies the disputes arising from anything in the nature of ecclesiastical establishments; and that if the sums raised for ecclesiastical purposes had been hitherto refused, and would, on principle, be still refused to be accepted by the Baptists and Independents, taxation for such a purpose would be unfair and create discord.

In reply to an inquiry of Mr. Crossley, Sir GEORGE GRAY stated, that the Acts which had been received from the colonies had been printed in a blue-book, together with some correspondence on the same subject. Sir G. Grey stated, that when his bill was introduced into Parliament there would be ample opportunities for discussing the contents of the Australian Bills, and of objecting to the clauses on Religious Worship.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY REFORM.

The Master and Fellows of Pembroke College have agreed unanimously to a large measure of College Reform, throwing open the Fellowships and Scholarships of that Society to public competition, which, under the able management of its present eminent head, Dr. Jeune, has tripled the number of its students. This Society is thus first in the field; and its reformed scheme only awaits, we are told, the confirmation of the Commissioners, appointed under the Act of Parliament of last session, to become law.

The Committee of the Hebdomadal Board has reported in favour of retaining the present examination in the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion in the case of Dissenters, who take advantage of the Act of Parliament to matriculate at the University.

The Master and Fellows of Balliol College have decided, by the casting vote of the new Master of the College, Dr. Scott, to require the subscriptions of its students to the doctrines of the Church of England.

The Bishop of Lincoln, Dr. Jackson, who is the Visitor of the College, has been appealed to against the Master's decision.—*Church and State Gazette.*

MR. DISRAELI AND THE "PROTESTANT" PARTY.

The following letter from Mr. Disraeli, recently become the pet of the Irish Orangemen, was read at the last weekly meeting of the Dublin Protestant Association:—

Hughenden Manor, December 6, 1854.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th inst., enclosing a resolution passed at a general meeting of the Protestants of Dublin, and forwarded to me at their request. The sentiments of a numerous, enlightened, and loyal body of her Majesty's subjects, on matters of grave importance, offered to my attention in so special a manner, are entitled to respectful and earnest consideration, and shall receive it. Although, in my opinion, the enduring greatness of this country is involved in the maintenance of Protestant principles, I am far from believing that such a policy is dependent upon penal legislation. What we want is, that the principles and practice of the constitution should be placed more in harmony, and that there should be an end to that ambiguous language and equivocal conduct which have existed of late years, on the part of the Government, which appears to have done much mischief and no good; which have excited, instead of allaying, religious animosity; and which have terminated in producing anarchy in the church, and feebleness in the state. I beg leave to remain, sir, your faithful servant,

T. H. Thomson, Esq.

B. DISRAELI.

The meeting adopted a resolution to the effect that this reply should be entered on the minutes of the association, adding that they, "as little as he, think a penal legislation desirable—what they desire is a sound, educational, instructive, and demonstrative policy, and the wise development of the principles of the Constitution."

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY.—It is reported that one of the subjects included in the measures of domestic legislation promised in the Queen's speech, will be the further reform of Cambridge University. Considering that the promise of such a measure was given last session, the report is not unlikely.

SHEFFIELD.—Lord Palmerston having issued an order to close all the burial-grounds attached to the churches and chapels in Sheffield (except St. Paul's, which is under a local act), a motion was made in the common council on Wednesday last to exempt St. John's Church from the order. We are glad to say that this motion was negatived by a large majority.

THE BISHOP OF EXETER has refused to grant permission to Sir Lawrence Palk to erect a district church at Meadfoot. The consequence of this proceeding will be, that Sir L. Palk will have to go to the expense of an Act of Parliament to overcome the legal obstacles in the way of establishing a district for a church.—*Western Times.*

PRIZE ESSAYS ON THE SABBATH.—A prize of £100 is offered by the Council of the Evangelical Alliance, for an essay on the Sabbath, to be written with a special view to circulation among the higher classes of the community. The essay is not to exceed a moderate-sized octavo volume; and competitors are to send in their MSS. for adjudication not later than 1st October, 1855. The Rev. Dr. Harper, Professor of Divinity in the United Presbyterian Church of Edinburgh; the Rev. John Jordan, Vicar of Enstone; and the Rev. Dr. Stowell, President of Cheshunt College, have consented to act as adjudicators.

IRISH UNIVERSITY REFORM.—An official notification from the Board of Trinity College announces the contemplated relaxation of the statute which debarred Dissenters and Roman Catholics from attaining the honours and rather scanty emoluments attached to the scholarships. The board, it seems, have resolved to create some additional scholarships, "which shall be open to students of all religious denominations, without distinction." They are to be called "Non-Foundation Scholarships," and will be tenable for the same period and endowed with the same emoluments as the chartered scholarships, and the candidates for both will be examined at the same time and in the same subjects. Four of the new scholarships will be filled up next Trinity term examination.

THE "NONCONFORMIST" AT PLYMOUTH.—*Apropos* to the attempted expulsion of the *Nonconformist* from the Mechanics Institute at Levenshulme, a correspondent informs us that a similar effort to exclude the paper from the reading-room in connexion with the Young Men's Christian Association at Plymouth, was successful, chiefly through clerical influence, although the committee is mainly composed of Nonconformists. Up to the time of its discontinuance our journal had been taken for a year or two, and was, says our correspondent, more sought after than any other papers of a like character, on the table. Our fate in this instance is not a singular one. An independent newspaper has frequently to go through such an ordeal. We must suppose our friends amongst the members of the Association are not very numerous or zealous, or they would ere they have reversed the sentence of "outlawry" of which our correspondent complains.

THE BURIAL-GROUND QUESTION.—The *Guardian* contends for the power vested in the bishops, but does not defend the mode in which the bishops of Carlisle and Exeter have exercised it. It says that "the act has not given any right of appeal as to the Chapel, from the Bishop to the Secretary of State; that ministers' authority extend only to the Dissenters' ground, while the episcopal approval is required for the building in which the burial office of the church is to be laid. Whether the act gives the bishop power to enforce the erection of a party-wall is not so clear; but neither, on the other hand, is it suggested by what pro-

cess the rite of consecration is to be enforced, should the diocesan think fit in his discretion to refuse it. After all, a right of decision must be lodged somewhere; the Dissenters are committed to the oversight of the Secretary of State, and if his decision is disliked they have no remedy. The same hardship, if it be considered a hardship, is imposed on Churchmen, by the episcopal control to which they are subjected. As to the wisdom of the course which the two bishops have adopted, in requiring a wall to be erected between the consecrated and unconsecrated portions of new cemeteries, opinions will naturally vary. The writer then proceeds to show that the question runs much deeper, for that Dissenters, in claiming a right of burial in consecrated as well as unconsecrated ground, are only paving the way for insisting on the use of the churches also.

TRACTARIAN TACTICS.—The Tractarian party are making strenuous exertions for the defence of Archdeacon Denison, and do not attempt to conceal how much they have at stake in the maintenance of the Romish doctrine, for which he is brought to trial. Dr. Pusey has announced that he will receive subscriptions in aid of Archdeacon Denison's defence, and Mr. Gresley, one of the leaders of the Tractarian party, writes as follows:—"If by any authority, either internal or external to our church, our Catholic formularies were essentially altered—if the doctrine of the sacraments were expunged so that our church would be set at variance with the ancient apostolic church, with which at present it is in harmony, still I do not see that the duty of those priests and bishops who hold the true faith would be in any degree altered. The large majority of the English clergy and laity would continue to those Catholic formularies which we now use. And if this involved, as it probably would, a disruption of the church, we should remain as we now are—the Church of England—the other party would be the separatists." Several thousands of pounds have already been subscribed to the defence fund. Several eminent legal gentlemen are mentioned as having been retained on behalf of Archdeacon Denison.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE REV. JOHN KEBLE.—It is stated that legal steps are to be taken in consequence of the recent publication, in the *Guardian* newspaper, of a letter, by the Rev. John Keble, vicar of Hursley, in the diocese of Winchester, committing its author to the theological views of Archdeacon Denison, about to be made the subject of judicial investigation. The writer asserts that there is nothing in the manifestly Romish teaching of Archdeacon Denison on the "real presence" but what might at least be "tolerated" by the Church of England, and he admits himself to be a believer in the "real objective presence of the body and blood of Christ in the Holy Eucharist, under the form of bread and wine." This, of course, is the argument of consubstantiation, which the Tractarians all hold, and for preaching which Dr. Pusey was suspended three years by the University of Oxford. It is stated that Mr. Keble has a curate who officiates as deacon in his parish, who was found, on examination for priest's orders by the Bishop of Winchester, to hold such unsound and Romish views on many important points of doctrine, that he was denied ordination.

THE ANTI-TRACTARIAN MOVEMENT.—On Wednesday evening, a preliminary meeting of churchwardens and others favourable to the proposed conference on Church matters, was held at the Caledonian Hotel, Adelphi. A deputation from the Anti-Tractarian Committee composed of Mr. Westerton, the Hon. Colonel Vereker, and Mr. Beal, attended to explain the objects of the proposed conference. The following memorandum, explanatory of the proposed movement, was read, and received the sanction of the meeting:—

OBJECTS OF THE ANTI-TRACTARIAN COMMITTEE.

To prevent, and, where already commenced, to repress and remove, in and from the Church of England, all doctrines and practices in any manner savouring of the Church of Rome.

To adopt all legal and constitutional measures for attaining these objects, including (if necessary) applications to Ecclesiastical and other Courts, to Parliament and the Sovereign.

To afford gratuitous advice and information to churchwardens and others anxious to repress Tractarian heresy in the Protestant Church in their immediate locality, and to discourage and abate irregular practices of ceremonial and worship.

To propagate and distribute sound information, for the purpose of forwarding all or any of the foregoing objects by tracts and otherwise, as may be deemed expedient, and generally for counteracting Tractarian doctrines in the Church of England.

That the objects of the committee, as above stated, be printed in the form of a circular letter, to be sent throughout the United Kingdom, according to the discretion of the committee.

The following resolution was then moved and carried unanimously:—

That this meeting, approving of the objects of the Anti-Tractarian Committee, as just read, pledges itself to give them their best support for the attainment of the same.

A series of resolutions and forms of petition, as the basis of the proposed conference, were then read and adopted. The following resolution was then moved, and unanimously carried:—

That this meeting, highly approving of the resolutions and petitions proposed to be the basis of the forthcoming conference of the churchwardens and laity, desire cordially to co-operate with the Anti-Tractarian Committee in conveying the same.

A committee was then appointed to co-operate with the Anti-Tractarian Committee for arranging the preliminaries for convening and managing the same.

Amongst the ladies who have lately left with nurses for the Crimea, was Miss Stanley, daughter of the late Bishop of Norwich.

Religious Intelligence.

STEPNEY MEETING SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

It is only for the last thirty years that to the Independent church at Stepney, established two centuries ago, have been attached Sunday Schools; but through all that period, chiefly from the exertions and influence of the late Dr. Fletcher, those schools have been remarkably prosperous. In the lifetime of a generation, the largest companies become widely scattered; and it was not till very lately that an attempt to re-unite the old and new constituents of Stepney Meeting was contemplated. By circular and advertisement, however, the attempt was made, and on Wednesday last, between three and four hundred old teachers and scholars sat down to tea within the familiar walls of the rooms in Garden-street.

The Rev. Mr. Kennedy of course presided; and in a most genial manner conducted the proceedings. These were of a happily informal character. Mr. Scrutton, the present superintendent, after letters from absent friends had been read, welcomed the company. The Rev. Mr. Hayward, one of some six or eight ministers or missionaries sent out by Stepney, was the first to give expression to the feelings common to all. Mr. Crane and Mr. Brown, old superintendents, followed, in capital speeches—short, but impressive. Mr. Smith, teacher of the old Berean class, responded with affectionate pride to the warmth with which his "boys" received him. Mr. Carvell Williams, Mr. Washington Wilks, and Mr. Shields, were successively called up as representatives of those "boys," long since grown into men and fathers. Mr. Thorn, an author and artist of repute, was also viewed by the meeting as one to be proud of and to hear. Mr. B. Fisher, Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Linders, and other gentlemen, once or now connected with the schools, were the subsequent speakers. It was very interesting to observe the unanimity and warmth with which the letters and speeches alluded to the old meeting and its late revered pastor; and no less gratifying to hear, that, in the able hands of the present minister, Stepney is recovering from its temporary decline—the school containing about 700 children and 80 teachers.

MR. WILLIAM ALFRED WRIGLEY, senior student of Rotherham College, has accepted an invitation to become the pastor of the church assembling in the Congregational chapel, Lowther-street, Carlisle.

THE REV. G. KITTLE, late of Hackney College, having received a cordial and unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the church at Upminster, has accepted the same, and entered on his duties the 17th inst.

MR. SHELDON KNOWLES preached on Sunday week, in the Wesleyan chapel, Shakspeare-street, Nottingham, in aid of the building fund. The attendance was good, and the collections amounted to above £18.

NEW BEXLEY, NEAR LONDON.—The Rev. J. Barlett, of Plymouth, has accepted a unanimous invitation to become the pastor of the new Congregational church in this place, and purposes entering upon his ministerial labours the second Sabbath in January.

ALBION-STREET, HULL.—The Rev. R. A. Redford, M.A., late of Newcastle-on-Tyne, has succeeded to the pastorate of the Congregational church, Albion-street, Hull, vacant by the removal of the Rev. Newman Hall, B.A., to Surrey Chapel, London, and commenced his labours on Sunday last, under very encouraging circumstances.

HARROGATE.—On Thursday evening week, a public meeting of the Dissenting interest was held in the Independent chapel, Harrogate, for the purpose of adopting measures for reviving the cause of religion here, and placing the cause of Dissent in a more permanent and prosperous condition. A deputation of gentlemen from Leeds was in attendance, consisting of the Rev. H. R. Reynolds, B.A., who occupied the chair; the Rev. O. W. Conder; and Peter Williams, Esq., the representative of the trustees. Several plans of usefulness were proposed by the ministers, which were generally acceded to by the church and trustees, and adopted with gladness; which, if carried out as they are commenced, will unquestionably be a source of great good to the increasing population of Harrogate. We are sure that visitors to Harrogate during the winter months will be glad to learn that the pulpit is to be supplied with eminent ministers throughout the year, as hitherto during the summer. Some wealthy friends have subscribed very liberally for the purpose. —*Leeds Mercury.*

HALIFAX.—LECTURES TO THE WORKING CLASSES.

The Rev. W. Walters completed his first course of lectures to the Working Classes of Halifax on Sunday afternoon last. The theme of the lecture was "Salvation." The lecturer explained the meaning of the term in connection with Christianity, showed that it was the gift of God to mankind, and urged its acceptance on working men as the richest possession they could enjoy. The Hall was crowded, as on all former occasions, numbers having had to go away who could not obtain admission. The immense audience listened throughout with the deepest attention, and before the close of the lecture many were in tears. Mr. Walters has just announced a second course on the following subjects:—The Influence of Christianity on Individuals and Nations—Infidel and Christian Death Scenes—The Certainty and Principles of the Judgment to Come—The Elements and Perpetuity of Heaven and Hell. Judging from the interest excited in the town and neighbourhood by the first course, we have no doubt the second will also be attended with crowded audiences, and accomplish much good.

THE REV. CANON STOWELL AND MR. BRIGHT, M.P. —At the fortieth anniversary of the Rochdale Auxiliary Bible Society, the Rev. Hugh Stowell, in proposing a

resolution, referred to the condition of the soldiers in the Crimea, and expressed an opinion that there was much piety amongst them. Every night, when at liberty, there are meetings by some of the soldiers, where the word of God is read, and prayer is offered. He believed that there never was such a critical period in England's history before as now, and there never was a period when soldiers were more willing to sacrifice themselves for the good of the country than those who are now before Sebastopol. At the conclusion of his speech, Mr. Bright, M.P., requested permission to make a few observations. He had listened with pleasure to most that had been said that evening, especially to the liberal sentiments which had been expressed by Mr. Stowell; but there were some references made to him whom we are bound to regard by law as our enemy which he considered to be objectionable. A gentleman who is a minister of an Independent chapel in St. Petersburg, Mr. Ellerby, had told him that since negotiations had commenced, a large shipment of Bibles and Testaments for the use of the inhabitants of Russia had arrived, the duty upon which had been remitted, and the Bibles were therefore admitted free. The Lutheran provinces of Russia are open to the free circulation of the Scriptures, and the Emperor of Russia being a subscriber to the Bible Society to the extent of £300 or £400 (as he had remitted that amount of duty), he (Mr. Bright) was not quite satisfied that it was judicious to speak in such terms as had been expressed that evening with respect to a contributor of the Bible Society.

BATH.—A chapel, erected for the church and congregation under the pastoral care of the Rev. R. Brindley, was opened on Wednesday last, when sermons were preached by the Rev. Dr. Harris and the Rev. S. Martin. The new place of worship is called "Percy Chapel," the residence of the late Rev. W. Jay, in Bath, having been for many years in Percy-place, and the prefaces of most of his works being dated from Percy-place. About two years ago, on the election of the Rev. W. H. Dyer as the successor to the pastoral office so many years held by Mr. Jay, the ministry left Argyle Chapel, and worshipped for some time in the Corridor Rooms. Subsequently, and for the last eighteen months, they used the Assembly Rooms as their place of worship; and now they have reared, at an expense of nearly £4,000, a new edifice. Out of this sum, nearly £2,500 has been raised by the congregation and friends. The architects are Messrs. Goodridge and Son, of Bath. The form of the building is Lombard. The external walls are somewhat like a horseshoe. Over the centre rises a diagonal lantern, about forty-five feet in diameter, to the height of nearly eighty feet to the top of the turret. All the windows are filled with stained glass. The pews are without doors. The pulpit, which is of stone, is placed against the organ gallery, and is entered from the vestry without going into the chapel. Over the doorway to the pulpit is a tablet to the memory of the late Mr. Jay. The front of the communion table and sides of enclosure are of polished Purbeck stone, round which are eight oak benches for deacons. The siles are laid with encaustic tiles. The principal part is flanked with two towers. Schoolrooms are provided under the chapel for 350 children. The number of seats in the chapel is about 1,000, of which 200 are free. It is gratifying to know that, while the Independent cause is as well sustained at Argyle Chapel as it was during the ministry of its late revered pastor, the new interest arising out of the secession is making rapid advancement, and promises, with the Divine blessing, to be the centre of much usefulness in a different part of the city of Bath.

Correspondence.

THE EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE AT MERTHYR TYDVIL.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—In your report of the proceedings at the recent meeting at Merthyr, a "Rev. Thomas Thomas" appears as the proposer of a resolution for the establishment of an association for the promotion of education in South Wales, with the aid of Government grants. As I have been for years rather prominent in the advocacy of voluntary education, and in opposing the efforts of State educationists in these parts, I hope you will allow me to state, through your columns, that I am not the party referred to. Much as I deplore the local mismanagement or inaction by which the good cause of free education in Wales has been brought into disrepute, I am as strongly opposed as ever to State interference on the subject. It seems to me that it would be quite as consistent with the fundamental principle of Dissent for the tutors of our colleges, and the pastors of our churches, to receive their salaries from Government, as it is for the teachers of British schools to do so for their services in imparting to the young the great truths and precepts of Christianity. The leader of a few State educationists in the county of Monmouth has recently left the Dissenters and entered the Established Church. This was both natural and consistent, for there is but a step, and a short one, from State education to State-churchism. This fact will be, I trust, a salutary warning to those who may be in danger from the tempting offers of men who present to them the "golden cup" of corruption on behalf of the unconstitutional Committee of Council, and the educational Church establishment in the Borough-road, for the rising generation.

You tell us, Sir, that these gentlemen are tired of the voluntary principle. If so, they have been tired with very little work in the cause of popular education. That cause is little indebted to the efforts of these respectable friends; yet it is progressing rapidly, by means of both private and public schools. The new organization will do little or nothing to promote it. It looks pretty well on paper, with an array of M.P.'s, Esquires, and Presidents of Colleges who are requested to act. The scheme would look still grander if the agents of the Borough-road had added the names of Nicholas Emperor of all the Russias, Napoleon III., and Queen Victoria, as patrons of the

new movement! Be assured, Sir, that Taffy will not be caught with this sort of patriotic chaff.

I may add, that "Mr. David Evans, of Swansea," who cried *peccavi* for having been "led away by Mr. Miall's views," is not, I believe, the respected Baptist minister of that name, but the *quondam* editor of the *Principality*, who some years ago denounced the Welsh Dissenters as recreant to their principles, because they did not support a journal which they deemed him incompetent to manage. That gentleman's antecedents as a public man do not certainly promise much for the success of the new movement.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

THOMAS THOMAS.

Baptist College, Pontypool, Dec. 16, 1854.

ARRIVAL OF MR. UNDERHILL AT CALCUTTA.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

DEAR SIR,—I have received by the Marseilles express a letter from my colleague, Mr. Underhill, informing of his safe arrival, after a pleasant voyage, in Calcutta, on November 2nd: all well. On their passage up the River Hooghly they passed the Hotspur, having on board the brethren Martin, Anderson, and Gregson, who landed on the following morning, in good health, and, indeed, improved by their voyage.

Oblige me by the insertion of these few lines, as the tidings will gratify relations and friends through the country who may not yet have heard, for the Indian mail, *via* Southampton, is not yet arrived.

I am, my dear Sir, yours truly,

FRED. TRESTRAIL, Secretary.

THE ANTI-SLAVERY CONFERENCE.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR,—I beg to call attention to an error which by some means had crept into the Resolution on American Slavery, as given in your report of the Anti-Slavery Conference held at the London Tavern on the 29th and 30th ult., and reported in your paper of the 6th inst. In the resolution as given by you, two societies are specifically mentioned. The resolution which the Conference passed, however, simply recorded its sympathy with all sincere abolitionists in the United States, but did not commit itself to the proceedings of any particular society.

I shall feel obliged by your inserting this in your next number.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

L. A. CHAMBERLAIN, Secretary.

27, New Broad-street, 18th December, 1854.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

The War, for bringing it to a speedy end, 1.
— for carrying it on with energy, 1.
Exciseable Liquor, for throwing open the trade in, 1.
Newspaper Stamp, for abolition of, 1.
Roman Catholic Soldiers, &c., for providing means of enjoying their religion, 2.
Stage Carriages, for reduction of duties on, 2.
Grain, for prohibiting distillation from, 2.
Licenses, against alteration of law, 1.
— for amendment of law, 1.
Shipping dues, for alteration of, 1.
Ports and Harbours, to carry out Commissioners Report, 1.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME.

Outlawries Bill.
Militia Bill.
Juries and Jurors (Ireland) Bill.
Judgment, Execution, &c., Bill.
Juries and Jurors (Ireland) (No. 2) Bill.
Enlistment of Foreigners Bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

Militia Bill.
Militia Bill.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

THE DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS.

In the postscript of our last number we were able to do no more than give a brief outline of the interesting debates in both Houses of Parliament on the preceding evening, which necessarily conveyed but an inadequate notion of their spirit. We therefore return to them for a few extracts.

We have already given the drift of Lord Derby's speech. The following passage eulogising the heroism of our forces in the Crimea has been much admired for its eloquence:—

My lords, when I remember that, of that numerically small army which was sent out from this country a few months ago, probably not one in a hundred of the privates, and probably not one in ten of the officers, had ever before heard a shot fired in anger; when I remember that they went forth, at the first outset of their campaign, to pine away in inaction, and that their ranks were thinned by disease—morally depressing, if anything could depress their indomitable courage; when I remember that an army composed of such materials, so weakened, so dispirited, was led to invade the dominions of a powerful enemy—having carried with them nothing but what was absolutely necessary for their march, and hardly sufficient for their equipment and provision; when I remember that such a body of men, under such circumstances, found themselves in front of a force numerically superior, entrenched upon heights, fortified with all the skill and all the power which the might of Russia could supply, and fortified upon ground the natural difficulties of which were such as to impede even an active man in the ascent, although not checked by the enemy; when I remember that these heights were bristling with batteries, from which shot and shell were poured which mowed down the ranks of our men as they ascended that glorious but blood-stained hill; when I remember that in the face of numbers not inferior to their own, against all the difficulties of position, against all the opposition of the most powerful artillery, they advanced weakened in numbers, falling by scores, but the survivors closing their ranks and pressing forward with indomitable courage; when, under these circumstances, hand to hand, that body of men who had never before heard a shot fired repulsed a veteran army from a position so fortified, from which it had been the boast of Russia that no army could dislodge them in less than three weeks, while this great success was achieved by our

raw army in the course of three hours; when we remember that within a fortnight afterwards, the position of our men being changed, they being the besieged instead of the besiegers, they were assailed by an army seven times their number; when we recollect that our troops were called to the conflict from excessive and continuous labour at the entrenchments, suffering from cold, from privation, from hunger, in some cases from all but nakedness; when we remember that they were placed under the disadvantage of a surprise in the darkness of a foggy morning; when I find that these men, who won the heights of Alma in the course of two or three hours from a numerically superior army, resisted the assault of an army seven times stronger than themselves, and for eight hours maintained the unequal contest, sometimes even without ammunition, our troops on those bloodstained heights being reinforced and supported by a portion of their gallant allies; when I remember these deeds of arms—aye, and even the unfortunate but astounding charge made by our gallant cavalry,—I say that no words can do justice to the merits of such brave and heroic soldiers. (Loud cheering.) I say that when we read the history of that campaign—when we read it not as politicians, but as men and as Englishmen (cheers), there cannot be a heart that does not throb with honest and generous pride that these much-enduring, all-daring, all-achieving men were our countrymen (renewed cheers); that they were British subjects like ourselves (loud cheers); and there is hardly an eye from which a tear will not spring unbidden when we reflect that so many of them are numbered with the dead. (Hear.) But I will only dwell upon that portion of the subject which relates to the glory which that gallant army achieved; I will not dwell upon the sacrifices they have made, or the sufferings they have endured. Their country will remember them. Their country will know how to value those who still remain; and, whatever may be the honours and rewards by which this country can show its gratitude to those who, in such unequalled circumstances and under such serious difficulties, maintained, upheld, increased the glory of the British flag, those honours and those rewards will certainly be granted with no niggard hand (loud cheers), but with universal approbation, and with the cordial consent of a grateful country. (Hear, and loud cheers.)

Earl Derby spoke of the Czar as a "great man," and prophesied a desperate defence. "Depend upon it, knowing, as I do, the resources of the Russian empire, and knowing the character of the great man who rules it (for he is a great man, although now employing his vast resources for unworthy purposes), you will gain no peace unless you conquer it."

The Duke of Newcastle's defence of the ministry in relation to the war was full and frank, and abounded in much interesting detail. We give as much space to it as our limits will allow. He was, he said, far too sensible of his own shortcomings to make an "out and out" defence of the Government. If we had now to begin again, with the knowledge and experience acquired since the 26th of March, some things not done then would be done now, and some things done then would be now omitted. From the outset, the war had a double object,—first, to defend Turkey; and secondly, to obtain securities against the recurrence of an attempt upon the integrity and independence of the Turkish empire. That policy had been identical with the policy of the Emperor of the French. It was not dignified in Lord Derby, by a reference to miserable election speeches, to endeavour to sow dissension between this country and France. He must have been aware that the policy of Lord Aberdeen was always to cement and strengthen that alliance; and the alliance was perhaps firmer now than ever, in consequence of the present character and open-handed spirit of confidence shown by the Emperor Napoleon. The Duke then vindicated the campaign in the Baltic. Passing from that subject, he entered fully into the campaign in the East. Wherever Lord Derby got the phrase "Malta and back again," he could safely affirm that it never was intended the troops should come back unless the Emperor of Russia abandoned his views. The troops, from 25,000 to 30,000 strong, were sent to Malta, and thence to Turkey; where, with the exception of some regiments of cavalry, they had all arrived before the end of April; and on the 22nd of that month Lord Raglan received instructions to move his forces towards Varna, to support that place, and subsequently Silistria, as the Russians had crossed the Danube. About the same time, French and English troops were sent to the Piræus to secure the neutrality of Greece. It was erroneous to say that the expedition to the Crimea was ordered in spite of the representations of any general. The despatches that passed between the Duke of Newcastle and Lord Raglan would show that when Lord Raglan was ordered to move to Varna, he was in a separate despatch instructed to make inquiry with reference to the reduction of Sebastopol, the forces in the Crimea, and the best means of carrying out the invasion. As far as any military opinions were received, they were in favour of the undertaking. The moment the siege of Silistria was raised—on the 22nd of June—Government felt that it was time to strike a home-blow at Russia; and on the 29th of June a despatch was sent to Lord Raglan, directing him to undertake the expedition. Such reinforcements as would enable him to take the field effectively—the Fourth Division, a second battery-train of forty-two guns, and two regiments of cavalry—were instantly sent out. When it is said that the force was insufficient, it was forgotten that the expedition was not undertaken by us alone, but in conjunction with a great military power. The ammunition sent out was double the amount considered sufficient by military authority. With regard to the delay at Varna, so vehemently complained of out of doors, the blame attached not to the army, but to the Government if to any one. This delay was caused by the necessary operations of the Turkish army, by the sending forward a portion of the French army, by the preparations for embarkation—so great that Sir George Brown and Admiral Lyons were occupied nearly a month in obtaining the necessary materials and

planning the operations; by the cholera which broke out in the camp, after the order to embark had been received—not before, as stated by Lord Derby; and by the outbreak of cholera in the fleet. The loss, although very serious, was not so great as had been represented; its worst effect being that it debilitated the survivors. Then as to the preparations, they were not only "immense, but minute;" and the quantities of stores pronounced sufficient by the best judges were in some cases trebled by the Government. But he admitted there had been some mistakes in not having these stores in the right place,—mistakes that he hoped would be avoided in future. Reverting to the question of reinforcements, he described how a body of 7,000 men had been placed under orders for the Crimea before the news of the battle of Alma reached this country; how a portion were sent in a French transport, but how the departure of the others was delayed by want of shipping; and how as steamers came in they were taken up by the Government. He described how upon the declaration of war regiments had been ordered home from the Colonies; some of which have not even yet arrived, and others are not fit for foreign service immediately. Look at France: at the commencement of hostilities, even she was not able to send reinforcements, which are now pouring in. Look at Austria: she was certainly not in a condition to enter the field when war was declared by this country. And if that is the case with great military nations, what must it be with a country whose military system rests entirely upon voluntary enlistment? It is a proud thing for us that we can assert our rights without compelling men to fight our battles; but the economical policy of the House of Commons renders it impossible that the forces should be of such an amount as the keen anxiety of the country requires. When a war seems likely to be brought to an early close, recruits do not come forward freely; but when success has been retarded, then there is eagerness to enlist. He readily admitted that the Government, in common with many men of great experience in war, erred in thinking that Sebastopol would have fallen long ere this. But the moment it appeared that the siege would be protracted, Government used every exertion to send reinforcements. The men sent out had been sent with great regret, because they have not been trained so efficiently as could be wished. The generals on the spot did not desire that they should be sent out prematurely; they would have been reserved for the next campaign, had not events arisen which induced Lord Raglan to press for them. It was not believed that the Russians could send reinforcements in time for the battle of Inkerman: the best opinions were taken on the subject; few in any other country did believe they could have been brought up; but the movement from Odessa to Sebastopol was effected with marvellous rapidity, by the aid of an unlimited number of cars and cattle; a march of forty-two miles being effected in one day. The whole number of troops which will have been sent out from this country by the end of the year will exceed 53,000; and it was questionable whether on any former occasion so many British troops were sent out in the same time. The Duke gave a multitude of details showing the stores that have been sent—

There were 62 position-guns, two battering-trains of 42 guns; 22,933,000 rounds of small-arm ammunition, 18,000,000 of which were for Minié arms; and 42 large guns and mortars, 9,000 shells, and 27,000 large round shot, have been sent from Malta. With regard to warm clothing, it was sent out in time, but did not arrive. In the Prince alone, there were 35,700 woollen socks, 53,000 woollen frocks, 17,000 flannel draws, 2,500 double water-coats, 16,100 blankets, and 3,700 rugs. The sum-total of the supplies sent out is—of worsted socks, 150,000; of woollen frocks, 90,000; of flannel drawers, 90,000; of boots, 91,397 pairs; of shoes, 13,000; of woollen gloves, 80,000 pairs; of over coats, 30,000; of fur caps, 35,000; of leather gauntlets, 20,000; of long woollen stockings, 80,000 pairs; comforters, leather mits, and other articles in proportion. Also, 40,000 railway wrappers, 40,000 water-proof capes, 12,000 buffalo hides, 12,000 pairs of seal-skin mits, 40,000 fur coats, besides horse-cloths, and a variety of other articles. The greater part has been already sent out. Besides these, sheep-skin coats for the whole army have been ordered; huts have been supplied from Trieste, Malta, Turkey, and this country; new suits of uniform—not the regular uniform issued at stated times, but a third suit in addition—have arrived in the Crimea by this time; and besides this, the troops have been supplied with extra rations of meat, spirits, and vegetables—without deductions. No army was ever better fed.

With regard to the medical service, the Duke admitted the imperfection of the system; but pleaded, that when the war broke out, instead of having a hospital corps, we had nothing of the kind; the whole thing had to be begun *de novo*. He showed that Government had adopted the advice both of Dr. Guthrie and Dr. Smith, increasing both the regimental and the staff surgeons; making a total of 495 medical officers, or one to every 77 men. Great improvements have still to be made. With regard to the supply of medical stores, while he rejoiced that the charity of the country has been called forth, he could not admit that there had been a deficiency. Beds have been sent for 18,000 patients; lint, in weight 26,564 pounds, in extent 36 acres; bandages 117,500, adhesive plaster, 20,550 yards. In reply to the charge that men had died from want of wine, he said that 4,880 dozen of port wine, 1,200 gallons of brandy, 31,180 pounds of sugar, had been sent out. In order to rectify the errors in the hospital system, a commission has been sent to Scutari; and to show that it had not been organized for the purpose of making up a case for Parliament, he mentioned that the Commissioners had named the Reverend Sidney Godolphin Osborne to supply the place of Dr. Spence, lost in the Prince. He vindicated the policy of sending out the nurses under Miss Nightingale, and spoke warmly of their devotion.

Referring to the allegations against the late commander of the Prince, he showed that a full inquiry had been instituted into his character, with a favourable result; while Commander Bayntun and another naval officer were placed on board the ship. He described how, in order to facilitate the operations of the army, they were sending out a complete railroad, with stationary engines, &c.; and how Mr. Peto and Mr. Betts have undertaken the work, refusing to derive a "farthing of profit from the affair in any way;" how, although the opposition circular spoke of the "critical position of the army," neither the soldiers nor the generals were discouraged. He eulogized the conduct of the seamen for their kindness to the soldiers, and their assistance afloat and ashore. He described the cordial union between the French and English; and the admirable discipline of the troops, which he referred to the amelioration of the soldier's lot. He spoke sympathizingly of the losses sustained, and how keenly he felt "the publication of those gazettes which carry grief to hundreds of homes." He mentioned incidentally, that Lord Derby's suggestion of a reward for General Canrobert had been anticipated; a fortnight ago, her Majesty commanded the Duke to convey privately to Lord Raglan her intention to confer the order of the Bath upon General Canrobert.

Before he sat down, the Duke of Newcastle stated that to encourage enlistment, two officers' commissions for each battalion have been given to Lord Raglan; who is also empowered to grant good-service pensions. In all directions, at home, in Ireland, in the Colonies, there exists an ardent desire to prosecute the war with vigour. He rejoiced that Lord Derby and the country had put a pressure on the Government.

I can assure your lordships, that, if we possess the confidence of Parliament, we will prosecute this war with a firm resolve and with unflinching perseverance. My lords, I do not understand the phrase of "moderation" or of "moderate counsels" in war. I believe that any such counsels as counsels of moderation in war are counsels of danger. I have said that we will prosecute this war with firm resolve and unflinching perseverance. While, on the one hand, we will not refuse to entertain overtures of peace, we shall not assent to any which are not only honourable but safe. My lords, we place our trust in the armies; we trust with entire confidence in a noble people; and, firm in the alliance and the friendship of a brave, a generous, and a powerful ally, we have no fear of the issue of this contest, but, believing in the justice of our cause, and with a humble but firm confidence in Him who rules the fates and decides the destinies of nations,—with these aids and assistance, we confidently hope to bring this mighty contest to such an issue as may assure for a series of years the repose, the civilization, and the prosperity of those countries of Europe which have been so unfortunately plunged into war by the pride and ambition of the emperor of one great nation. (General cheering.)

Earl Grey said, that having been one of the very few who objected to the whole of the policy which has brought us into war, he thought it right to state that he cordially concurred in the Address; and although his former opinion was confirmed, and though he deplored the waste of human life, yet he gladly acknowledged that in the midst of the evils some good has arisen. It has been proved that we are ready to sacrifice our dearly-beloved wealth; that our soldiers are not less but more heroic than in former times; that our free Government, instead of being an obstacle to the exertions of that force which we possess, gives it double energy. He took the Government to task for having consulted and followed professional men, who could tell the provision of former wars, but who did not consider the great changes made in the last half-century. All the resources of science, which have since those days quadrupled the powers of man, should have been adopted. The Emperor of Russia has shown himself alive to the value of these resources. Had the railway been adopted earlier, the battle of Inkermann would not have been fought, because the right of the position would have been strengthened. Then the huts sent from this country would not reach the Crimea until the middle of January. All our measures have been too late. In like manner, he found fault with the neglect in not building gun-boats, and not destroying Odessa.

Mr. LAYARD's speech was full of details of an interesting character; in many cases founded on his own observations. He stated that the Russians will shortly have 200,000 men in the Crimea! Some hon. member cried "Oh!"—"The hon. member," said Mr. Layard, "might cry 'Oh,' but only last session he had been told that was impossible for the Russians to bring up reinforcements at all (hear), and in the Crimea we had been acting on that very idea, reckoning on the Austrian alliance, which was to prevent reinforcements being brought up; and yet, in one fatal night, they had found 100,000 upon their flank. (Hear.) Last session he had been laughed at for saying that the Russians could have 100,000 men in the Crimea, but, if they would reckon up the account, they would find that nearer 150,000 had been arrayed against us. At Inkermann, according to Lord Raglan, 60,000 men attacked us, and of these not a single regiment had fought against us at Alma. The 40,000 men at Alma, and the 60,000 of Inkermann made 100,000; Liprandi's division which, with Dannenberg's corps, had been pushed down from Wallachia, 25,000 more, at the same time, 10,000 men made a sortie from Sebastopol on the left of the French position, and all the batteries of Sebastopol were playing on the allies. So that the reckoning, on the whole came nearer to 150,000 men than to 100,000. What was there, then, to prevent them bringing down 200,000 men into the Crimea?"

Of Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT's able defence of ministerial policy we have already given an outline. In vindicating the expedition to the Baltic, he remarked that it had ended "in the capture of islands almost inaccessible, held by a very powerful enemy, in which buildings had been marked out for erection so as to make them into another Cronstadt, another Helsingfors, so that there might be a Sebastopol in the Gulf of Fin-

land." The Minister of War says that Bomarsund was a fortress to which in a few years Sweaborg and Cronstadt would have been as nothing, and in its harbour and under its guns the whole fleet of Russia would have been able to lie in security. "I have no hesitation, my lords, in saying that had Bomarsund not been destroyed, in a few years the Gulf of Bothnia would have become a Russian lake, and Stockholm would at any moment have been at the mercy of Russia." The peroration of his speech was as follows:—

Russia is now placed in a state of isolation. Her hostile army intrenched in her own chief arsenal, her fleet has been sunk by her own act, and her forts on the Caucasus have been destroyed by her own hand. These are effects of the first campaign. I ask, where can you find in the history of England, a campaign of not more than a few months' duration attended with such results? But still I hope to see our army considerably increased; and if you, the House of Commons, think it ought to be, tell us so. I tell you that the country is determined, at all hazard and at all cost, that the army of Lord Raglan shall be supported. If the House of Commons does not answer to that feeling of the country, then the House of Commons must take the consequences; for, depend upon it, there is but one feeling upon the subject. We are engaged in a war which was entered upon with reluctance; we must carry it out vigorously to obtain that which is the object of all war—namely, peace; for peace to be obtained, it must be conquered. Let no exertions be spared which will enable us by vigorous operations to gain that end. I say further, if you think the Government worthy to be intrusted with those powers, then intrust them; but I would sooner a thousand times sink ten Governments rather than any other policy should be adopted. I care not in whose hands the war is placed provided it be carried out; and provided the representatives of the people honestly and truly carry out the determined will of the nation, that the noblest of armies shall be assured of the means, so far as human means can avail, to obtain a perfect triumph. (Loud and long-continued cheering.)

The report on the address was brought up on Wednesday, at the customary morning sitting; and several members spoke on the subject of the war. Admiral WALCOTT was sure the House would receive with generous confidence the measures proposed for the prosecution of the war. Mr. ARSLEY PELLATT, as a representative not only of merchants and bankers, but of the working classes, assured the House that the whole population of the Metropolis is for pushing the war with energy. He suggested that there should be a special war-tax imposed on fixed property in land, houses, the funds, and railways, which "would enable the Chancellor of the Exchequer to remit many cases that now pressed with undue severity upon different interests and classes of the community. Sir HENRY WILLOUGHBY expressed distrust of Austria; asked for explanations; and wished to know when the Government expect to be able to obtain peace. Mr. ARCOCK did not wish to interfere with the unanimity of the House; but he must complain "that nothing has been done." The Duke of Newcastle was to blame for sending such a powerful fleet to the Baltic, when he knew that Cronstadt could not be taken without an army. One half the Baltic fleet would have been enough, and the other half might have been sent to the Black Sea. And he was still more to blame for not sending a sufficient army to the Crimea. Colonel SIBTHORP condemned the Government for "gross apathy"; and intimated his opinion that it would take nine foreigners to make a good Englishman. Mr. RICE pointed out, that by the campaign in the Baltic the crews have been rendered efficient, the Russian ships kept out of the North Sea, and the navigation of the Baltic thoroughly understood.

Mr. GLADSTONE declined to answer such questions as related to military operations—such as what he should do with Sebastopol, and why we did not take Anapa? All he would say was, that the Government had taken its resolutions deliberately, and is prepared to follow them out by the most effective and energetic means. It had been said that nothing has been done: he would not say that *everything* has been done, but on that point Government would take its stand upon Mr. Sydney Herbert's candid statement of the preceding night. Mr. Gladstone defended the Baltic campaign. Only twelve sail of the line were at first sent there; the crews were new, and not in the highest state of efficiency; and that fleet was increased because there were twenty-five Russian sail of the line in the Baltic. It was asked how he could be so absurd as to invade Russia with fifty thousand men: now the forces first landed amounted to fifty thousand, but the operations were not limited to that; the French army in the East was little short of a hundred thousand men; altogether a force of a hundred and fifty thousand men had been engaged in the invasion. With regard to the treaty with Austria, the Government is sensible of the inconvenient position in which the House is placed; but the treaty cannot be laid on the table until it be ratified.

Mr. WHITESIDE, Mr. SCOTT, and Sir JOHN TROLLOPE, passed some criticisms on the Government; and the report was agreed to.

THE MILITIA.

Lord PALMERSTON opened the proper business of the session on Wednesday, by moving for leave to bring in a bill to enable her Majesty to accept offers made by whole regiments, or portions of regiments, of Militia, for service out of the United Kingdom. Government had been accused of entering on the war without a reserve: to that he answered, that the reserve is the British nation. He was sure that ample means would be afforded of carrying on the war. It is not intended to ask the Militia to join Lord Raglan's army, but to do garrison duty in the Mediterranean—Gibraltar, Malta, the Ionian Islands—perhaps they may be asked to go to North America. The Militia regiments have made such progress that they would be as efficient in garrison as any regiment of the line. There has not been one exception as regards the offers

of permanent embodiment for duty throughout the year. It should be distinctly understood, that no officer or man can by possibility be sent out of the country without his own distinct and voluntary offer of service—no man can be compelled, under any circumstances, to serve out of the country without his own consent.

No opposition was made to Lord Palmerston's motion, but a conversation ensued, in which Mr. Newdegate, Sir John Pakington, Colonel Sibthorp, Sir John Walsh, Mr. Banks, Lord Lovaine, and Mr. B. Denison, took part; Lord Lovaine describing the measure as a stop-gap that would only retard the final result of war; and Mr. Banks demanding why this step had not been taken a year ago. The bill was read a first time.

In reply to Mr. Newdegate, Mr. S. HERBERT said, the Government felt strongly the necessity of having a sufficient reserve for Lord Raglan's army, and it was intended to place a reserve at Malta.

In the brief debate on the second reading of the Militia Bill, which happened at the close of Thursday's sitting, Lord PALMERSTON explained that the Militia regiments sent abroad will remain the Militia of the counties to which they belonged, and return to those counties when their services abroad cease. Those officers and men who do not volunteer will not be liable to any imputation of want of spirit; and he quite agreed that a great many persons of rank and property could render greater services at home than mounting guard in the Mediterranean.

The bill was read a second time. On the motion that it be committed, Mr. DISRAELI asked for a postponement till Monday, in order that time might be given to propose amendments. Like Lord Derby in the House of Lords, Mr. Disraeli expressed his fears that the bill would strike a blow at voluntary enlistment; adding an expression of regret that recourse should be had not only to this measure, but to another for enlistment of foreigners into her Majesty's service,—a measure more likely to be needed, he should have thought, when we approached the extremity of our resources. Lord JOHN RUSSELL observed that the case is exactly the reverse: we began the war on a peace establishment, and could not have a great army in the first year of war.

Mr. ADDERLEY said that our Colonies are able and willing to furnish a military force; and he wished to know whether Canada had not expressed a willingness to furnish men and money? Sir GEORGE GREY answered, that although he had not received any official information of the fact, he was aware that the Canadian Assembly had voted £20,000 for the relief of the widows and orphans of English and French killed during the war; and the time might come when Canada would not limit her assistance to money. As she is raising a militia of her own, he thought is not likely that our militia will be sent there.

On Monday the House of Commons went into Committee on the Militia Bill. Mr. BANKES moved to amend the first clause, which empowers Her Majesty to accept the voluntary offers of the militia to serve out of the United Kingdom, by limiting the number to three-fourths of each corps actually serving. Lord PALMERSTON did not object to a limitation to three-fourths of the actual establishment of each regiment. The amendment thus altered was agreed to, after a discussion which extended to various collateral points.

On the motion of Lord PALMERSTON, in the oath contained in the second clause, the term of "five years" for the service was substituted for "during the remainder of the war."

The other clauses in the bill were agreed to.

Mr. FITZROY moved a new clause, making subalterns of militia of five years' continuous standing eligible to the rank of captain, without properly qualification; and another clause altering the law respecting notices to militiamen; both of which were added to the bill.

ENLISTMENT OF FOREIGNERS.

In the House of Lords on Thursday, the Duke of NEWCASTLE brought in a bill to enable her Majesty to enlist foreign soldiers in her service. Formerly it was considered that this power vested in the Crown; but in 1794 a motion was made in the House of Commons disapproving of that course, and although the motion was rejected, it was thought desirable to have an act of Parliament conferring that power. In 1794, and again in 1804 and 1806, acts were passed to enable the King to raise foreign soldiers, among them the German Legion, which from 1807 to the battle of Waterloo rivalled our own troops in efficiency. It had always been found desirable to enlist foreigners especially at the commencement of a war; because, unlike the military nations of the Continent, we have no facilities for immediately bringing into the field a large and trained force. Prussia has a Landwehr, a body of men trained for a certain number of years and then returned to the civil community; but all we can do is to raise raw recruits, whom it requires time to drill and to train in the habits of military life. As Parliament is jealous of the introduction of foreign troops into this country, the number has always been limited; it was 5,000 in 1794, 10,000 in 1804, and 16,000 from 1806 to the close of the war. It has been thought proper to take the opinion of Parliament before any proposals should be made to foreign Governments to enlist their subjects; and therefore it was not desirable to mention whence these troops are likely to come; but the House may be aware that certain districts in Germany and Switzerland are most likely to furnish troops. Should the measure receive the assent of Parliament, the force raised will not consist of raw recruits, but of trained soldiers, only requiring to be brought together and officered to be ready for service.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH was perfectly astonished at the proposition of the Duke of NEWCASTLE. Here were 16,000 foreigners to be drilled and trained in this country, and to be substituted for an equal number of Militiamen sent abroad. There was nothing in the attitude or conduct of the nation since war had been

declared to give any countenance to such a sacrifice of constitutional principle. In case of any domestic riot, if this legion were to act against the mob, you would soon have the whole country in arms against these foreign mercenaries. What security could you have that these troops would behave well or be worth the money spent upon them? Was it to be supposed that if exposed to the enemy's fire on such a day as that of Inkermann they would show the same constancy as British soldiers? The Government ought to have called out the whole of the Militia nine months ago, and then they would not have been driven to this dangerous experiment, which he was prepared to oppose by every means in his power.

The Earl of DERBY thought this was a measure dangerous both in principle and policy. The noble Duke who introduced it had passed lightly over the constitutional objections to such a scheme, and seemed to have forgotten that, on former occasions, when such foreign forces were employed, England and Hanover were united under one sovereign, and that those Hanoverians were not foreigners.

I hope they felt an interest in the glory, in the safety, and in the independence of the dominions of that Sovereign; but is there no distinction to be drawn between men in that position, and men who have no sympathies or interests in common with the people of this country? [The Duke of Newcastle here made an observation which was inaudible in the gallery.] Why, the noble duke has admitted that his colleagues do not know whence the foreign troops whom they propose to embody are to be drawn. Are they to be obtained from Greece, or from Tunis, or from what quarter of the world?

The Duke of NEWCASTLE: I did not say that her Majesty's Government did not know from what quarter they would obtain such troops, but I said that until communications had been made to the Governments of foreign countries I did not think it would be right for me to make any statement on the subject. I regret that the noble earl almost invariably misrepresents the statements of her Majesty's Ministers.

The Earl of DERBY: The noble duke on a former occasion was somewhat more humble and civil. (Hear, hear, and a laugh.) I am sorry to find that he is returning to his youthful habits, and forgetting that courtesy which is usually exhibited in the House of Peers. (Laughter from the Opposition.)

It is very desirable that the House should be informed whence these mercenaries were to come. Were they to be Poles, for in that case the force employed would have a common interest in the struggle? He thought, too, that such a proposition was a very humiliating confession for England to make, and that it was the greatest encouragement that could be given to the Emperor of Russia.

What encouragement could be so great as to find that the War Minister of the Crown, in the first year of the war, is obliged to come down to Parliament and declare that our resources are exhausted, that he cannot draw upon the garrisons without—"Hear, hear!" from the Duke of Newcastle.)—What does the noble Duke mean? I trust that I may argue this matter with somewhat more calmness than the noble Duke, and, I hope, without being personally offensive.

He could not help coupling this scheme with the bill for sending the Militia out of the country, though that measure was not yet before the House. If foreigners were required, let them be enlisted for foreign service, but do not say that we were forced, at this early stage of the war, to employ them at home. A British Minister should have blushed to make such a proposition, and he trusted the House would refuse to sanction the bill.

The Earl of ABERDEEN denied that the foreign troops which it was proposed to raise were to be substituted for the Militia; they were to be introduced into this country for a limited time, for the purposes of drill, and then to be sent to the seat of war. A great statesman (the Earl of Chatham) had thus employed German troops, and, if the measure were sanctioned by the House, a most effective addition to the force of the country would be provided. He thought Lord Ellenborough had no good reasons for the opposition which he had so unexpectedly offered to the bill, and he trusted the House would not be deterred by the objections which had been urged against it from reading the bill a second time.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH reminded the Earl of Aberdeen that this introduction of foreign mercenaries was what had rendered the Earl of Chatham's administration odious to the nation.

It was understood to be a most discreditable compliance with the assumed wishes of George II., and to be, perhaps, owing, in a certain degree to his then recent connexion with the Duke of Newcastle. (Much laughter.)

The Earl of MALMESBURY, while disclaiming any wish to throw any impediments in the way of the Government, thought that the Government were bound to show more respect for the opinions expressed by those who felt bound to differ from them. He certainly was rather surprised that such a measure should have been introduced so early in the war. He had just obtained some figures showing that the exact amount of force which England was enabled to raise from her own children during the last war. What was the strength of our regular army at that period? It numbered 237,000 men. What was it now? He believed somewhere about 130,000. The militia in the last war amounted to 88,000 men, the volunteers, to 267,000; the yeomanry, to 65,000; and the sailors to 140,000. So, here were 665,000 Englishmen enrolled in arms out of a population infinitely inferior to that we possessed now. (Hear, hear.)

After some observations from the Duke of Argyll, who defended the bill because the war might be called a European rather than a national struggle,

Lord GREY said, that though he regarded the raising of such a foreign force with jealousy, it appeared desirable to augment the military force of the country as speedily as possible, and for that reason he thought the measure might be justified. In saying this he

reserved to himself the full right to express his opinions freely on this as well as the Militia Bill.

The Earl of GLENCAIRL inquired whether it is intended to begin recruiting foreign troops, without waiting to see whether Ireland and Scotland raised their quotas of 30,000 and 10,000 men.

Replying to this question, the Duke of NEWCASTLE said, there is no connexion between the two bills. As men come forward more readily when a regiment is embodied, it is intended to embody nine Irish regiments. With respect to what had fallen from Lord Malmesbury and Lord Grey, he did not complain; but he had a right to complain that the bill should be treated as it had been by Lord Derby and Lord Ellenborough. If the term "misrepresentation" were objected to, he would use another more palatable; but the motives of Government and the circumstances connected with the bill had been "mis-stated."

The bill was read a second time.

On Friday, the motion for going into committee on the bill led to a smart debate and a close division. At the commencement, the Duke of NEWCASTLE explained, that on re-examining the bill, he discovered that it might be converted to the purpose of employing the foreign force within the United Kingdom as a substitute for the British force. Practically, no possible Government in this country could use such a power; it was not intended, and the words implying the power should be struck out, while a direct prohibition should be inserted in the bill. The sole object of the measure is to enlist and enroll foreign troops, and to despatch them to the seat of war. The numerical limit, 15,000, had been copied from the act of 1806; but if there are any objections to that number, he will alter it to 10,000.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH, drawing a distinction between the support of the war and the support of Ministers—reminding the House that he was the oldest supporter of the war, and that he had fatigued the peers with his constant references to it,—censured the slovenly and careless manner in which Ministers treat measures for the military service of the country, making it a matter of indifference in the present case whether a force should be 10,000 or 15,000. He reminded the House of his propositions in 1853 to increase the Indian force, as a precautionary step in preparation for the impending war, and to strengthen the force at home. The rejection of those constitutional measures now forced them to supersede the constitutional principles of the country. Government has sacrificed the two great principles of success in war—secrecy and expedition. He admired the capacities of Ministers for civil administration, but had no confidence in them for war. He had always doubted the probability that Lord Aberdeen would succeed, in a thing he so thoroughly hated as carrying on a war. Her Majesty's Ministers are extremely clever gentlemen; they all possess an extraordinary capacity for making good speeches of extraordinary length. The only exception is his noble friend at the head of the Government; in that respect, if not in any other, he is the ablest Minister who ever sat upon those benches. (Laughter.) The want of the Cabinet is the absence of great commanding ability. The presence of so many very nearly equal persons impedes instead of facilitates public business. The ballot is an open question amongst them.

Perhaps there is no measure that would so much tend to strengthen them, and to strengthen them especially for the transaction of public business, as the expulsion, by ballot, of one-third of their number. (A laugh.) It is a matter of perfect indifference who go. I do not think that it signifies one rush to the public, so equal are they; but I am quite sure that the remaining two-thirds would conduct the business of the country a very great deal better than it is conducted at present. (Cheers and laughter.)

The remainder of the debate consisted of renewed attacks upon Ministers, by Lord HARDWICKE, Lord DERBY, and others. Lord WODEHOUSE, Lord GRANVILLE, and the Duke of ARGYLL, spoke for Ministers. On a division, the motion for going into Committee was carried by 55 to 43. In Committee, the clauses, as amended, were agreed to.

At two o'clock on Saturday, the Lords met to proceed with the bill. On the bringing up of the report, the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH renewed his opposition to the measure, contending that it impeached the royal prerogative, and in practice would prove worse than useless. He noticed also that the promised reduction in the number of foreigners to be enlisted from 15,000 to 10,000 had not been made in the draft of the bill. The LORD CHANCELLOR defended the measure from the legal objections urged by Lord Ellenborough. The Duke of NEWCASTLE admitted that by some oversight the bill had been left uncorrected. The alteration in question having been effected, the report was agreed to.

On Monday, the bill was brought up for third reading, when the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH once more denounced it. He said that, as the bill now stood, it would go down to the House of Commons with the single alteration of 10,000 for 15,000 men. His objections to the principle of the bill remained the same. It involved a traffic in blood not less detestable than the old African slave-trade. The Marquis of LANSDOWN characterised the objections that had been raised against the bill as exaggerated and absurd, and declared that all the dangers which had been attributed to it would vanish like spectres upon investigation. Really he could not see how the British soldier would be degraded by fighting side by side, with Germans, or Spaniards, or Italians, or Dutchmen. The object of the bill was to extend in a very slight degree the prerogative of Her Majesty, and to bring at once into the field a body of disciplined troops, who would, no doubt, fight as gallantly as the victors of Alma and Inkermann. The Earl of DERBY again remarked upon the constitutional peril and national degradation which would follow the passing of the present bill; but, after the vote of the previous night, declined to ask for another

division on the measure. The noble earl then entered into other objections against the measure, and concluded by recommending our Indian army as a source from which our army in the East might be judiciously strengthened. After some further discussion, in which Lords HARDINGE, GREY, MALMESBURY, and GRANVILLE took part, the bill was read a third time, the fifth clause, relating to the enforcement of discipline, having been struck out by the Duke of Newcastle.

Late the same evening the bill was introduced into the House of Commons by Lord John Russell, and read a first time.

AUSTRIA IN THE PRINCIPALITIES.

In the House of Lords, on Friday, in reply to a question put by the Marquis of CLANRICARDE as to the conduct of Austria in the Principalities, the Earl of CLARENDON made a statement. At the time when the expedition to the Crimea was meditated, General Hess proposed operations in concert with the allies; but he was informed that the allies intended to proceed against Sebastopol. Austria, not being in a condition to attack Russia single-handed, gave up her own plan of co-operation, augmented her forces on the frontier, and strategically compelled the Russians to evacuate the Principalities. With respect to this occupation by Austria, the British Government had objected to it, unless with the consent of the Sultan; and advised the Sultan not to accede to any demand for the withdrawal of Turkish troops from Wallachia. The Austrian Government gave the fullest assurance that no exclusive occupation of the Principalities was intended: nevertheless, hindrances were thrown in the way of Omar Pasha. Against these the French and British Governments made strong and energetic remonstrances; whereupon the Austrian Government explained that the officers had acted contrary to and in excess of their instructions; and fresh orders were sent by telegraph. It appeared that Omar Pasha had no fixed plan. A mixed commission, consisting of the Austrian, French, Turkish, and British Ambassadors at Vienna, is now sitting to receive reports from Omar Pasha and the French and English Consuls, with summary powers to settle disputes.

THANKS TO THE SERVICES.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE proposed in the Lords, on Friday evening, and Lord JOHN RUSSELL in the Commons, a series of resolutions conveying the thanks of Parliament:

First, to Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, "for the energy and distinguished ability with which he has conducted the operations of her Majesty's forces in the Crimea, for the brilliant and decisive victory obtained over the enemy's army on the Alma, and the signal defeat of a force of vastly superior numbers on the heights of Inkermann."

Also, to Lieutenant-General Sir John Burgoyne, Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown, Lieutenant-General the Duke of Cambridge, Lieutenant-General Sir De Lacy Evans, Lieutenant-General Sir Richard England, Lieutenant-General the Earl of Lucan, Major-General the Earl of Cardigan, Major-General Yorke Scarlett, Major-General Bentinck, Major-General Sir Colin Campbell, Major-General Pennefather, Major-General Codrington, Major-General Adams, Major-General Sir John Campbell, Major-General Buller, Major-General Eyre, Major-General Torrens, and to the other officers.

To the non-commissioned officers and privates, "an acknowledgment of their distinguished discipline, valour, and exertions;" with thanks to be communicated.

To Vice-Admiral Dundas, Rear-Admiral Sir Edmond Lyons, and the other officers of the fleet, and to the seamen and marines—thanks for "indefatigable activity and exertions."

To those who have "perished in the present struggle," an expression of admiration—and to their relations and friends of "deep sympathies."

To the commanders, soldiers, and seamen of the French army and navy,—thanks, to be communicated by Lord Raglan and Admiral Dundas.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE went but lightly over the events of the campaign, acknowledging the graphic fullness of the accounts which had anticipated him in the performance of that part of his duty. He mentioned an incident of the battle of Alma, which showed equally his skill and modesty. He eulogized the army for its moral as well as its military character; declaring that their conduct while encamped among a population alien in religion and manners, was highly creditable. He added:—

I have the pleasure of stating to your lordships that these are the sentiments of the Sovereign, as I am confident they are those of your lordships, and her Majesty has been pleased to signify her approval of the conduct of the army by conferring medals upon the whole of the soldiers and officers who were engaged upon those eventful days. (Hear, hear.) The medal is to be inscribed with the word "Crimea," and, following what I think your lordships will agree with me are good precedents in such cases, clasps are also to be bestowed for the two great battles of Alma and Inkermann. Her Majesty has further been pleased to order that the names of those battles shall in future be inscribed upon the colours which were already crowded with similar records of previous victories gained by our regiments which were engaged in the Crimea. (Hear, hear.)

He also highly praised the humane exertions of the medical officers—particularising the late Dr. Thompson, and the ardent co-operation of the transport service; which, according to precedent, could not be formally acknowledged.

The Earl of DERBY,—invited to do so by the Duke of Newcastle,—seconded the resolutions in a very cordial manner, but with less of oratorical fervour than he displayed on a previous evening in his allusions to the campaign. He raised the question whether there was precedent for the thanks to the officers of an ally; and Lord ABERDEEN said there was, "after Waterloo."

Lord HARDINGE and Viscount GOUCH, among other peers, spoke in support of the resolution, which of course passed unanimously.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL disclaimed the ability to criticize the conduct of the campaign, and rebuked the disposition of others to do so. There was nothing remarkable in his speech but an expression of horror at the cruelty of the Russians on the field, and of dissatisfaction with the reply of Prince Menschikoff to communications thereupon.

Mr. DISRAELI, in seconding the resolution, described

the campaign as an epic, of which Balaklava was an episode; and supplied an omission in previous speeches:—

There is one point upon which I could have wished that the noble lord had touched, although there were so many subjects which he could not have avoided treating, that I shared the admiration of the House at the completeness with which he seemed to have mastered the theme before him. (Cheers.) But when the noble lord recalled to our recollection the deeds of admirable valour and heroic conduct which have been achieved upon the heights of Alma, of Balaklava, and of Inkermann, I could have wished that he had publicly recognised that the deeds of heroism in this campaign have not been merely confined to the field of battle, but that many precious lives have been given to the pestilence at Varna and the inhospitable shores of the Black Sea. The men who thus lost their lives, in my opinion, were animated by as heroic a spirit as those who may have died victors amid the flashing of artillery and the triumphant sound of trumpets. (Loud cheers.)

The French alliance, he remarked, "encouraged by the imperial mind of Elizabeth, and sanctioned by the sagacity of Cromwell," would now be maintained by mutual respect and generous emulation. In conclusion, he spoke with eloquent feeling of the fallen and the bereaved:—

We have already felt, even in this room of public assemblage, how bitter have been the consequences of this war. We cannot throw our eyes over the accustomed benches, where we miss many a gallant and genial spirit, without feeling our hearts ache, our spirits sadden, and even our eyes moisten. But if that be our feeling when we miss the long companions of our public lives and labours, what must be the anguish and desolation which now darken so many hearths in England? Never was the youthful blood of this country so profusely lavished as it has been in this contest for a great cause, in a great service, and for ends which sanctify the sacrifice. (Hear, hear.) But we can hardly hope now, in the greenness of the wound, that even these reflections can be a sufficient consolation. Young women who have become widows almost as soon as they have become wives—mothers who have lost not only their sons, but the brethren of their sons—heads of families who have seen abruptly close all their hopes of an hereditary line—these are pangs which even the consciousness of duty performed, which even the lustre of glory won, cannot easily or speedily alleviate and assuage. But, Sir, let us indulge in this hope, nay, even in this conviction, that the time will come when the proceedings of this evening may be to such persons a source of consolation (hear), when sorrow for the memory of those that are departed may be mitigated by the recollection that that memory is at least associated with imperishable deeds, with a noble cause, and with a nation's gratitude. (Loud cheers.)

After a few words from Lord HOTHAM, Mr. LAYARD narrated several instances of daring that came under his own observation:—

The depth of water in front of the batteries not being known, it was most important that soundings should be taken, in order to ascertain how near the Agamemnon could go to the shore. Admiral Lyons, therefore, sent for a young man named Ball [as was understood], in command of a small vessel used for transport and towing purposes, and asked him, "Will you go in before me and sound, and if you come out, you shall have your commission?" The young man, without hesitating a moment, went on board of his ship, and with the utmost calmness advanced before the Agamemnon under the most terrific fire, and, having performed the service required of him, escaped untouched, and reported the result to the admiral. Again, during the action, at one time Admiral Lyons thought it almost necessary that some other ship should come up and take off part of the fire, and with this object he made signals, which unfortunately were not seen. The admiral having expressed his wish on the quarter-deck, his own nephew—and this made the incident a more touching trait of heroism—his own nephew at once volunteered to go in a small vessel and open communication with another ship, and accordingly went and conveyed a message to Lieutenant Cole. Before the attack of the 17th, a report prevailed that the Agamemnon could not go into action, but that, being at Balaklava, her commander was to take the charge of another steamer, and lead her to the attack. One day, therefore, Admiral Lyons was summoned to the quarter-deck, and when he arrived there he found the whole of his ship's company assembled. The man whom they had chosen as their spokesman then advanced, and said, that the ship's company had mustered together because they had heard that their commander (Admiral Lyons) was about to take the command of the squadron which was to attack the batteries of Sebastopol, but intended to lead in another ship, and said this man, speaking for the ship's company, "We think it very hard, Sir, that having had all the work we should have none of the sport." (Hear, hear, and laughter.) Of course the gallant admiral then assured them that, wherever he went, there his ship's company should go too.

He also defended the Turks engaged at Balaklava from the imputation of cowardice.

Mr. MILNES suggested that the Government should take into consideration the families of the officers who died on the field of battle.

Mr. DRUMMOND animadverted with severity upon the attacks upon Admiral Dundas—especially upon the breach of hospitality committed by the writer of a "Letter from the Main-top." This brought up Mr. LAYARD, who, regretting that a confidential communication from him had been made public, declared he was ready, if called upon, to substantiate the charges he had made against the admiral.

Captain DUNCOMBE, Sir J. GRAHAM, Sir F. BARING, Admiral WALCOTT, and Captain SCOBELL, defended the admiral. Mr. LAYARD reiterated his declaration, that, if challenged, he was ready to support the charges he had made. The matter was not, however, gone into, and the vote of thanks to Admiral Dundas passed, with the rest, *nem. con.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

Sir B. HALL gave notice on Wednesday, that he should, immediately after the Christmas holidays, move the repeal of the Health of Towns Act of 1848, and the Nuisances Removal Act.

In reply to an inquiry by Mr. HILDYARD, respecting

the unfortunate vessel the Prince, Sir J. GRAHAM said the Admiralty had received no official account, but he took the opportunity of making a short statement of facts concerning the loss of that vessel. The cables, he said, were secured before the storm; the report that they were not clinched was incorrect. With respect to the master of the Prince, it was true that he had been represented by an officer of the navy as incompetent; but upon strict inquiry, the Admiralty were assured that he was a most trustworthy man. Nevertheless, they thought it prudent, before she sailed, to put on board of her Captain Baynton, an experienced commander in the navy, with control over the master, who expressed, when at Constantinople, his entire satisfaction with the conduct of Captain Goodall. Mr. GIBSON inquired who was responsible for having removed the transports from the harbour of Balaklava? Sir J. GRAHAM replied, the senior naval officer at Balaklava?

In answer to a question by Mr. WILKINSON, Mr. CARDWELL said that a bill had been prepared by the Government on the subject of limited liability of partnership, and would be introduced in the present session.

In reply to Mr. GIBSON, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, the Government were endeavouring to frame a measure on the subject of the newspaper press (one of considerable difficulty); but prudence dictated that it should not be introduced until there was a fair prospect of their being able to press it for the definitive judgment of the House.

In reply to Sir JOHN TROLLOPE, Mr. BAINES said that Lord Courtenay has not, as had been reported, resigned the office of Secretary to the Poor-law Board; and therefore no "complete appointment" of any successor has been made.

In reply to Mr. DISMABLI, on Thursday, Lord JOHN RUSSELL stated that the Government have only two measures, the Militia Bill and the Enlistment of Foreigners Bill, to bring under the consideration of Parliament at present; of course the length of this period of the session will depend on the time occupied by these two bills.

In reply to a question from Mr. WISE, Mr. STRUTT explained that Mr. Bertolacci had been appointed auditor of the Duchy of Lancaster, on high recommendations, for the purpose of placing the accounts in a better condition than that in which they were left on the resignation of Mr. Lockhart, the previous literary incumbent of the office. Mr. Strutt had never heard the name of Mr. Bertolacci until Mr. Gladstone mentioned him as a gentleman who had already done service in disentangling public accounts. The new auditor would receive £200 instead of £400 a year, and retain his position in the Board of Ordnance.

In reference to the vacant space near St. Paul's, Sir W. MOLESWORTH, in reply to Mr. LABOUCHERE, said that the land belonged to the City of London, and was worth £80,000. Although it might be a gross act of Vandalism on the part of the City authorities to build upon it, he, as Commissioner of Works, had no power to prevent it, nor had he any funds at his disposal for the purchase of the ground in question; indeed, he did not think, if he had, that Parliament ought to give £80,000 to the city of London for the purpose of inducing them to do their duty. (Hear, hear.) He would willingly second any motion that would prevent the land alluded to being built over, provided it did not involve the outlay of the public funds, and he promised to bring the matter to the attention of the City authorities.

In reply to Mr. J. B. SMITH, Mr. CARDWELL said that the collection of agricultural statistics had been carried out in Scotland, Ireland, and in eleven counties in England. If the present experiment turned out satisfactorily it would be further extended.

Sir J. GRAHAM, in reply to Mr. EWART, said, that the coal mines of Heraclea, in Turkish Asia, were to be worked for the joint benefit of the French and English forces in the Black Sea, and were expected to produce 30,000 tons annually.

Mr. PACKE, on Friday, asked Lord John Russell whether it was his intention, during the present session, to bring in a bill to settle the question about church-rates? Lord JOHN RUSSELL proposed to state the intentions of the Government upon the subject after the Christmas recess.

No financial statement is to be made before the recess.

Mr. PELLATT, after the recess, is to move for a Select Committee to inquire into the working of the several Acts relating to grave-yards.

Mr. SCHOLEFIELD, after the recess, will move for a Select Committee to inquire into the practice of adulterating articles of food.

In answer to a question from Mr. HAMILTON, Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT said that it was not true that the Scripture readers at the hospital of Scutari had been expelled in a body from the hospital. He explained the regulations established with regard to the admission of the female nurses and religious advisers into the hospital. The nurses were originally selected without regard to creed, but they were placed under the care of one lady, that lady being a Protestant. They were strictly enjoined not to converse on religious subjects with men of a different creed from themselves. The same regulations were enjoined upon the Scripture readers. But he understood some of these Scripture readers had been distributing tracts to men of other denominations; and for that he supposed those who had been engaged in the practice were expelled. A Roman Catholic priest was expelled for a similar offence; for it was the rule laid down by the authorities in no case to interfere with the religious opinions of the wounded soldiers.

The Earl of ABERDEEN, in reply to Lord MALMESBURY, on Monday, stated that the House would meet after the recess on the 23d of January.

In reply to an inquiry by Admiral WALCOTT, Sir J.

GRAHAM explained the reasons which had led to the proposed exchange (for the exchange had not yet taken place) with the King of Prussia of one of our frigates for two of his gunboats.

The Duke of GRAFTON, on Saturday, gave notice that, on the re-assembling of Parliament after the Christmas recess, he should ask the Government whether they purposed to appoint a day of general thanksgiving for the success of our arms in the East. The noble duke proceeded to move for returns respecting the amounts contributed to the Patriotic Fund raised during the last war, and the mode in which it had been expended. The Duke of NEWCASTLE stated that as that fund had been raised by private agencies, and not under a royal commission, neither the house nor the government were entitled to demand any returns of the nature described. The Duke of Grafton, therefore, withdrew his motion.

In reply to a question from Mr. J. O'CONNELL, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated that the Government had no intention of proposing any exemption from the Income-tax in favour of officers of either branch of the service on account of their being engaged at the seat of war. Such a distinction he believed would be invidious, and any reward which those officers had earned would be more appropriately given in another shape.

In the House of Lords, on Thursday, the Earl of ABERDEEN stated that the Report of the Maynooth Commission would be ready by the first week in February.

Foreign and Colonial News.

THE FRENCH EMPEROR AND THE CONSTITUTION.

The *Daily News* Paris correspondent gives currency to the following story, which however, he cannot absolutely authenticate:—"I am informed that an extraordinary council was convoked by the Emperor on Friday last to consider the question whether it might not be expedient, under existing circumstances to revise the constitution with a view to increase the popularity of the Government by calling upon the nation to take a more active part in public affairs. At this council all the ministers were present except M. Bineau, who is ill. There were also present MM. Troplong and Mensard, the President and Vice-President of the Senate, MM. Baroche and Rouher, President and Vice-President of the Council of State, M. de Morny, President of the Corps Legislatif, and M. Pietri, the Prefect of Police. The Emperor opened the proceedings in a terse speech, which seemed to have been learned by heart. He said in substance that the gravity of the situation induced him to ask their frank opinions. He believed peace to be probable, almost certain, but it was, nevertheless, necessary to make material and moral preparations for war. He desired to be advised whether, in case the war should go on, it would be desirable to introduce some modifications into the constitution of the empire favourable to the liberty of the tribune and the liberty of the press. He wished, also, that the council would consider the same question on the supposition of a peace being concluded. M. Troplong forcibly and almost violently argued that no change should be made. He maintained that the safety of the government and of society depended upon the maintenance of the dictatorial system inaugurated in December, 1851. M. Billault took the lead on the other side. On the suggestion of a member of the council it was decided by the Emperor that the two questions he had put should be considered together, since he believed, on reflection, that the internal régime which might be good in time of war would be equally desirable in time of peace. On a division, the council resolved, by a majority of 9 against 6, that some alterations were desirable, that there was something to be done. The members who voted in the minority were MM. Troplong, Fould, Mensard, Morny, and Magne. The Emperor, it is said, listened patiently, as his wont is, to all the observations that were made, and at the end of the sitting, thanked the members of the council for their advice, without giving any indication of his own opinion. You will remember that when Lord Palmerston was in Paris, a rumour was current that he had suggested to the Emperor the advisability of considering the question now said to have been mooted at the council."

THE PRUSSIAN CHAMBERS.

The question of voting an address to the king was discussed in the second Prussian Chamber on Friday. Baron Vincke's address was put and lost and M. Bethmann-Hollweg's was withdrawn. M. Manteuffel, the Prussian Premier, spoke briefly and said, "There is no necessity for an address, although the house can vote one if it wills to do so. In that case, however, Ministers, considering the present state of political affairs, will decline to explain the foreign relations of Prussia. We are at peace with all powers and must act with reserve." M. Vincke in the course of the debate lamented that Prussia was isolated from the great powers. "Not from Russia!" triumphantly exclaimed M. Gerlach, a leader of the dominant court party—"Not from Russia, a great power, and some say the greatest."

"It was reported on Saturday that at a Cabinet Council held at Berlin on the previous day, it was decided that Prussia shall join the Western Powers; stipulating for the concession of certain advantages on the North Sea and the Baltic. There has been no confirmation of this report."

A letter from Berlin says—Anything in the shape of preparations for war is still confined to the provisioning of the Rhenish fortresses.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The King of Prussia was seized with indisposition on the 7th, and has since kept his room.

The Swedish-Danish telegraph across the Sound is now completed, and messages can be sent from Hamburg to Stockholm.

In Spain, as in some parts of the South of France, the Pope's proclamation of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception has been celebrated by fêtes and illuminations.

The Maryborough diggings, two hundred miles from Melbourne, three months after their discovery had a population of 25,000, a theatre, bowling alleys, and a horse-race.

The amount of capital invested in the French railways is three thousand millions of francs, of which two have been paid by the companies, and one by the State.

On the 30th of November an insurrection broke out at Latakia, in Syria, among the mountaineers. The Governor marched against them with 2,000 men, and, being killed by a shot, the soldiers retreated.

Advices from Munich of the 15th announce that King Louis has been seized with an apoplectic fit at Darmstadt. Later advices state that the condition of His Majesty was improving.

The Emperor of the French has granted from his private purse the munificent pension of 6,000*fr.* a year to Madame Marrast, the widow of Armand Marrast, the eminent republican president of the Constituent Assembly.

Melbourne is rapidly improving as a town, substantial stone or brick buildings rising in the principal thoroughfares, while the roads are macadamized, and even pavement has appeared—flagged with stone brought from Caithness.

The *Morning Chronicle's* Copenhagen correspondent states that the Swedish Government has ordered another disgusting razzia against some Baptist families who have refused to have their children baptised. The gendarmes are instructed to seize the infants, and to see that the rite is performed.

Sergeant Walter Morrison, of the Scots Fusilier Guards, acted as interpreter to the band of the Guides when they visited London. The Emperor of the French has sent a very valuable gold watch and chain to be presented to the Sergeant. Morrison has gone to the Crimea.

The navigation of the river Murray, in South Australia, by the *Lady Augusta* steamer, which tows barges, continues with success, though water has been short this year. The steamer Melbourne has also entered the river from the sea. The Legislature is about to provide funds for surveying, beaconing, and erecting leading marks at the mouth.

M. Lesseps, formerly French Consul in Egypt, has obtained from the Viceroy, Said Pasha, a firman, granting to a company, of which he is a director, the applied-for authority to make a ship canal across the Isthmus of Suez, connecting the Mediterranean with the Red Sea. This great undertaking will require a capital of £6,000,000 sterling.

M. Leon Faucher, died, at Marseilles, on Friday morning. His career, as Minister, of the Interior under Louis Napoleon, President of the Republic, is well known. Ever since December 2, 1851, he has lived in retirement, writing occasionally articles on political economy in the *Revue des deux Mondes*. He was scarcely 55 years of age.

Baug, the new Prime Minister of Denmark, and his colleagues, are much more liberal than their predecessors. On Monday the Parliament was opened, and the King was serenaded. There were immense crowds. The King appeared on the balcony, and thanked the populace for this loyal demonstration. He was immensely cheered. There were no disorders.

One Gray, a printer, is in custody at New York for throwing vitriol on ladies' dresses in the streets: he pursued his villainous practice systematically, having pockets contrived to secrete the syringe whence he squirted the vitriol; in some cases the ladies were burnt by the fluid. Gray pleads that he had a "mania" for his amiable amusement,—apparently originating in a religious hatred of gaiety on the part of women.

The *Paris Moniteur* announces that the appeal made by the commission charged with the publication of the correspondence of the Emperor Napoleon I. has been responded to. The archives, libraries, and other public establishments, as well in France as in foreign countries, have already furnished valuable documents. A great number of families and individuals, amateurs and collectors of autographs, who possess portions of this correspondence, have also evinced a desire to communicate them to the commission.

The news by the overland mail which brings dates from Hong Kong to Oct. 28, and from Bombay to Nov. 14, is not important. An envoy from Kohan, and one from Dost Mahomed, have arrived in Peshawur for assistance from the British Government against the Russians. The Afghan chief has decided on an English in preference to a Russo-Persian alliance. Lord Elphinstone is at Bombay, suffering from the effects of a sun-stroke. The Governor General, who is now at Calcutta, will leave for the Neilgherries in March. The patriot cause was gaining ground in North China. Admiral Stirling had arranged a treaty with Japan, by which two ports are to open to British trade. Sir James endeavoured to stipulate the same terms for the French empire that he has obtained. The Japanese Minister, however, would not accede to this.

MESSAGE OF THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT.

Franklin Pierce, President of the United States of North America, delivered his annual message to the Senate at Washington on the 4th instant. The document begins by noticing the character of the past year, a period marked in portions of the country by great

losses to the husbandmen, pestilence and unparalleled casualties by land and sea, yet in American experience a year of peace, of regained salubrity, and of harvests for the most part bountiful. From this slight notice of the condition of the republic the President passes to a subject on which his lightest word would be listened to with anxiety, but on which, notwithstanding, he says nothing very novel or forcible. The following paragraph contains the pith of his remarks on the condition of Europe and America:—

Leaving the transatlantic nations to adjust their political system in the way they may think best for their common welfare, the independent powers of this continent may well assert the right to be exempt from all annoying interference on their part. Systematic abstinence from intimate political connexion with distant foreign nations does not conflict with giving the widest range to our foreign commerce. This distinction, so clearly marked in history, seems to have been overlooked, or disregarded, by some leading foreign states. Our refusal to be brought within and subjected to their peculiar system, has, I fear, created a jealous distrust of our conduct, and induced, on their part, occasional acts of disturbing effect upon our foreign relations. Our present attitude and past course give assurances which should not be questioned, that our purposes are not aggressive, nor threatening to the safety and welfare of other nations. Our military establishment, in time of peace, is adapted to maintain exterior defences, and to preserve order among the aboriginal tribes within the limits of the Union. Our naval force is intended only for the protection of our citizens abroad, and of our commerce, diffused, as it is, over all the seas of the globe. The government of the United States, being essentially pacific in policy, stands prepared to repel invasion by the voluntary service of a patriotic people, and provides no permanent means of foreign aggression. These considerations should allay all apprehension that we are disposed to encroach on the rights, or endanger the security, of other states.

Of more interest than these general declarations, are the views of the President on the rights of neutrals, and on the renunciation of privateering. On the former subject, he says, the Czar and the King of Naples concur with himself.

The King of Prussia entirely approves of the project of a treaty to the same effect submitted to him, but proposes an additional article providing for the renunciation of privateering. Such an article, for most obvious reasons, is much desired by nations having naval establishments large in proportion to their foreign commerce. If it were adopted as an international rule, the commerce of a nation having comparatively a small naval force, would be very much at the mercy of its enemy, in case of war with a power of decided naval superiority. The bare statement of the condition in which the United States would be placed after having surrendered the right to resort to privateers, in the event of war with a belligerent of naval supremacy, will show that this government could never listen to such a proposition. The navy of the first maritime power in Europe is at least ten times as large as that of the United States. The foreign commerce of the two countries is nearly equal, and about equally exposed to hostile depredations. In war between that power and the United States, without resort on our part to the mercantile marine, the means of our enemy to inflict injury upon our commerce would be tenfold greater than ours to retaliate. We could not extricate our country from this unequal condition, with such an enemy, unless we at once departed from our present peaceful policy, and became a great naval power. Nor would this country be better situated in war with one of the secondary naval powers. Though the naval disparity would be less, the greater extent and more exposed condition of our widespread commerce would give any of them a like advantage over us.

The proposition to enter into engagements to forego resort to privateers, in case this country should be forced into war with a great naval power, is not entitled to more favourable consideration than would be a proposition to agree not to accept the services of volunteers for operations on land. When the honour or rights of our country require it to assume a hostile attitude, it confidently relies upon the patriotism of its citizens, not ordinarily devoted to the military profession, to augment the army and navy so as to make them fully adequate to the emergency which calls them into action. The proposal to surrender the right to employ privateers is professedly founded upon the principal that private property of unoffending non-combatants, though enemies, should be exempt from the ravages of war; but the proposed surrender goes but little way in carrying out that principle, which equally requires that such private property should not be seized or molested by national ships of war. Should the leading powers of Europe concur in proposing, as a rule of international law, to exempt private property upon the ocean from seizure by public armed cruisers, as well as by privateers, the United States will readily meet them upon that broad ground.

The President next refers to the treaty between the United States and Great Britain relative to the coasting fisheries and reciprocal trade with the British North American colonies, mentions the steps that have been taken on both sides to hasten and anticipate the operation of that treaty, and asks for them the sanction of the legislature. Differences as touching a territorial boundary line on the Pacific and the right of the Hudson's Bay Company, he seeks the means of reconciling in a power to be granted by Congress to a commission to be joined by one appointed by England.

The long-established relations of friendship between the United States and France will not, the President hopes, be jeopardised by the fact that the French consul at San Francisco was compelled to appear in a court of justice as a witness against his will. As to M. Soule's affair, the French government has distinctly disavowed any intention of denying the right of transit to the minister of the United States.

The relations of the United States with Spain are unchanged, but the President expresses the hope that the new ministers at Madrid will be more favourably inclined than their predecessors to do justice to American claims.

Negotiations are pending with Denmark for the discontinuance of the Sound Dues. The Washington cabinet believes it can claim exemption as a right, and

gives notice to that of Copenhagen to terminate the treaty of 1826.

The expedition to Japan has been successful, and certain ports of that country are by treaty to be opened.

Against Mexico the President alleges grievances, both new and old, for which his government has been unable to obtain satisfaction; but claims credit for having discountenanced expeditions against that republic.

With the Argentine Confederation, Uruguay and Paraguay, treaties securing the navigation of La Plata have been signed: endeavours to open the Amazon in like manner have not been equally successful.

Respecting the destruction of Greytown, the President makes an elaborate statement. He alleges that the communications across the isthmus, and unarmed boats freighted with millions of property, were in danger from the inhabitants.

In his report on finance, the President estimates the surplus for the current year at fifteen million of dollars; and renews his recommendation of a reduction of import duties, and "as the general principle of reduction of duties, with a view to revenue and not protection, may be regarded as the settled policy of the country," he trusts that "little difficulty will be encountered in settling the details of a measure to that effect."

DEATH OF THE REV. JONATHAN GLYDE, OF BRADFORD.

This respected and benevolent minister of the gospel departed this live on Saturday week, in the 47th year of his age. He had been pastor at Horton-lane Chapel, Bradford, for the last nineteen years, and his amiable character and his deep and active interest in all the varied religious, educational, and benevolent institutions of the town, as well as in every object that tended to elevate struggling humanity, renders his demise a public calamity, and his removal will be greatly deplored. Mr. Glyde was to the last, both in theory and practice, a consistent Nonconformist. He was for a short time successively pastor of the Congregational Church at Collumpton, in Devonshire, and classical tutor in the Western Academy for the Education of Ministers. It was from this latter office that he came to Bradford, in the autumn of 1836, as successor to the late Rev. Thomas Taylor, to preside over the congregation at Horton-lane Chapel. The *Bradford Observer*, speaking of the mental characteristics of the deceased, says:—"He was distinguished by a remarkably vivid sense of the beautiful both in nature and art—by great subtlety, amounting in his discourses sometimes almost to tenuity of thought—by very varied, and, in some matters, almost profound erudition—by an eager restlessness in the acquisition of knowledge on all points, whether sacred or secular—and by a constant effort to communicate the information thus acquired, spiritualized and adapted to the wants of those whom he taught." Mr. Glyde's health was always delicate, and his physical frame had been early overpowered by excessive mental toil. In the summer of last year, by desire of his congregation, he visited Belgium, France, Italy, Switzerland, &c., and appeared to derive considerable benefit from the tour. On his return he gave two very interesting lectures on his travels, for the benefit of the Town Mission, in which his keen appreciation of art, and his catholic love of truth, were characteristically displayed. About five months ago he was attacked by a low fever, from which he never rallied. The remains of the respected and devoted pastor were on Friday consigned to the tomb amidst the lamentations of a large concourse of friends and admirers. A religious service first took place in Horton-lane chapel. The coffin was borne into the chapel while the organ pealed forth a solemn dirge, and placed on the communion table. After a brief interval, the Rev. John Paul, of Wibsey, gave out a hymn. The Rev. W. Scott then read several passages from the Scriptures. The Rev. H. R. Reynolds, B.A., of Leeds, then delivered a funeral oration. It was a beautiful, affectionate, and eloquent tribute to the virtues and memory of the deceased, and calculated also to impress the congregation with their high and solemn personal responsibilities. A funeral hymn was then sung, and the service was closed by the Rev. J. G. Miall pronouncing the benediction. The congregation was very large, and included clergymen, ministers, and gentlemen of all ranks, not only in this neighbourhood, but from other towns of the Riding. The funeral procession passed through the town to the cemetery at Undercliffe, where the ceremony was completed. The shops on the line of route were closed.

The Wesleyans of the United States are about to erect a cathedral at Washington.

We understand that Dr. George Wilson, of Edinburgh, has been requested by the friends of the late Professor Edward Forbes, to prepare an extended biography of that distinguished naturalist.—*Glasgow Commonwealth*.

The *Athenæum* of Saturday has an interesting announcement:—"We hear of two literary works 'in progress' of unusual interest. One is by M. Kossuth,—the other by M. Mazzini. M. Kossuth, we believe, is preparing for the press a collection of his letters from Turkey, which will probably contain some curious pieces of secret history. A revised edition of the great Magyar's speeches on the question of the day—the war and how to manage it in the interests of freedom—may also be expected from M. Kossuth's hand.—A few weeks ago, contemporaries spoke of M. Mazzini as being engaged, at the instance of an American publisher, on a 'History of Italy.' There was no truth in this rumour. The Roman triumvir, we believe, is employing his leisure on a work likely to be of importance for the future of Italy—the development of the Italian Religious Question."

Postscript.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS.

In the House of Lords yesterday, in reply to the Duke of Grafton, the Earl of ABERDEEN stated, that, after much deliberation, it was judged most appropriate to abstain for the present from appointing any special day of thanksgiving for the victories obtained by the allied forces in the Crimea.

The Militia Bill, which had been just passed by the Commons, was brought up and read a first time, on the motion of the Duke of Newcastle. It is to be read a second time, and committed on Thursday.

Their lordships adjourned at six o'clock.

In the House of Commons, in reply to a question by Mr. MUNTZ, Lord J. RUSSELL said, the Government had not proposed, or thought it advisable to propose, to the French Government to take French troops, either wholly or in part, into the pay of England.

Mr. BRERFORD moved for leave to bring in a bill relieving from all liability, on account of legacy or succession duty, the property and estates of the officers and men who died, or might die, on service in the Crimea during the present campaign. The Chancellor of the Exchequer objected; the motion was withdrawn.

Captain SCOBELL, having moved that an address should be presented to the Crown, praying for the establishment of an "order of merit," with the view of recognising distinguished personal services performed either by officers or privates during the present war, Lord J. RUSSELL intimated that the whole question of rewards for military desert was under the consideration of the government. The motion was then withdrawn.

The Militia Bill was read a third time, and passed, after some opposition by Colonel SIBTHORP.

THE FOREIGNERS' ENLISTMENT BILL.

Lord J. RUSSELL moved the second reading of this Bill. Much prejudice, he observed, had been excited against the measure, and exaggerated apprehensions entertained of its possible consequences. The history of this country showed that a similar resource had often been adopted, often with great advantage, and always with perfect safety. He then cited a number of precedents in favour of the principle of the measure. Whenever, in fact, England had been engaged in continental war, foreign troops had been enlisted under English pay, and embodied as a portion of the British army. Premising that the severest call on our resources occurred at the commencement of a war, the noble lord detailed the nature and extent of the services which would immediately devolve upon the allied armies for the purpose of defending Turkey at all points from the dangers which threatened her. In the Crimea, in the Danubian Principalities, and in Asia, they were called upon to resist a Sovereign who commanded sixteen or eighteen *corps d'armées*, each as numerous as the force which we had already despatched to the Crimea.

Sir E. B. LYTTON apprehended that the enlistment of aliens would chill that national spirit which was already pouring in recruits to the army faster than they could be enrolled and enregimented. The very introduction of the bill argued *laches* in the Government, who had received abundant warnings of the magnitude of the war, and might have long since developed the military resources of the country sufficiently to dispense with the beggarly aid contributed by a few thousand miscellaneous hirelings. He contended that the precedents cited in defence of the measure did not apply, and that the emergency by which it could alone be justified did not exist. No information, he remarked, had been given as to the source whence the mercenary troops could be drawn, but he warned the House of the many dangers present and prospective, that must arise from collecting into a focus, practising in war, and finally disbanding, the refugee members of distressed nationalities. Denouncing the bill as containing a "crawling proposition," the hon. baronet declared that any advantage which might accrue from it would be dearly purchased by the discredit at which it must be purchased. For all our required supplies of men the home market would be found the cheapest and the best. He concluded by moving, as an amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day *ix* months.

Mr. MONCKTON MILNES reminded the House that the war possessed nothing of an exclusively national character. Mr. ADDERLEY complained of the insult passed upon the North American colonies when the Government declined their offers of aid in men and money in favour of a band of foreign mercenaries. Mr. WATSON supported the bill, recognising the necessity of supplying all possible strength and co-operation to the army engaged in reducing Sebastopol. Mr. E. BALL believed that the measure would contribute a new element of suffering and disaster to already existing calamities of the war. Mr. M. GIBSON saw no difference between the present proposal and the employment of the Red Indians during the early wars in North America. The objects for which the bill was proposed were also insufficient; the addition of 10,000 men to the allied force being absolutely insignificant when compared with the gigantic power of the country against which they were to be arrayed. Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE admitted the possibility of raising with effect a Polish legion to fight against Russia, but could not approve the scheme for defending England by the agency of stipendiaries.

Mr. S. HERBERT argued in support of the bill, that the present contest was one in which German interests were pre-eminently involved, and that there was no paucity of precedents. But, if precedents were wanting, where there was an obvious exigency, precedents, he

contended, were needless. He explained the causes of the exigency, and the reasons why Germany afforded resources for military recruiting; though he admitted that the Government could not pretend to say how many men they could get, or where they would get them. They asked Parliament to let them try an experiment, which, if successful, would afford the great advantage of a valuable auxiliary force, until our raw native troops had acquired discipline and seasoning. France, although a great military nation, had always employed, and still entertained, foreign troops in its service.

Lord STANLEY complained of the mystery which enveloped the measure—no information being given as to the sources whence these foreign soldiers were to be obtained. What, he asked, should we think of the Emperor of Russia if he were advertising for soldiers in every European market?

The party to which the Secretary at War belonged laid down the principle that in a moment of great national difficulty any sacrifice on the part of individuals—he would not say of political character, but, at all events, of something verging on that—(hear, hear)—was not only lawful, but necessary. (Cheers.) If the Government were sincere in their principles, now was the time to show it. (Cheers.) They had made a mistake—their own organs in the press said so, and their own friends, in their private circles, admitted it. (Cheers.) Persevere, and they would raise a feeling fatal to their own tenure of office, and dangerous to the community. Admit that they were wrong, and in the frankness and sincerity of the atonement the country would forget the folly of the design. (Great cheering.)

Sir J. FITZGERALD spoke in favour of the Bill.

Lord PALMERSTON said it had been argued that this resource should be kept until the end of the war. This was putting the cart before the horse, for it was exactly at the beginning of the war that such a force was wanted. Then it was supposed that there was some deep mystery in the measure, because the secret where the men were to be got was not revealed; but what would the Constitutionalists have said if negotiations with foreign Governments had preceded the sanction of Parliament? The enemy we had to contend with had an almost unlimited command of men, and it would be a cruel violation of what Parliament owed to this country and to France to refuse the means sought by this bill to repress and chastise ambition.

If we had waited a year we should never have taken Sebastopol. (Hear, hear.) Any delay in that expedition would entirely have defeated the object in view. The blow must be struck now or never; and to strike it now without sufficient means would be worse than madness. (Cheers.) We have engaged in a great war, with a great power, for great objects—(hear, hear)—and it is not becoming, it is not suited either to the interests or the honour of this country, that we should attempt to carry on that war with a small and insignificant force. (Cheers.) Our means should be equal to the magnitude and importance of the contest—in conformity with the interests and honour of the country, which require great efforts. (Hear, hear.) Do not let the House deceive itself in this respect. It is not by small detachments and insignificant bodies of troops that this great contest can be decided. (Loud cheers from the opposition.) If the gentlemen opposite will only vote in conformity with that cheer, they will do better. (Hear, hear.) The circumstances in which this country is placed, require great and continued efforts. We are making those efforts at home. We shall send to our brave army in the East every reinforcement which that great national reserve—that noble reserve—the British nation may afford us in sufficient numbers, and sufficient condition, to be useful and effective. (Cheers.) But in a case of this kind, every method, every addition that can be made to our available means, is the duty of Government to make, if Parliament will only give them the power of making it. (Cheers.)

Mr. DISRAELI said, as the ministers now impressed upon the House that we were at war with a power of the greatest military importance, he looked to see whether the means proposed were adequate to this great emergency. He (Mr. Disraeli) admitted that during the last war there were instances of a parallel character to the transaction of 1777—a shameful page in the history of England; but he showed from the correspondence of the Duke of Wellington that no dependence could be placed upon the fidelity of foreign mercenaries whose political sympathies were not engaged. The surprise at Inkermann had been attributed by a French paper to information conveyed to the enemy by a deserter from the foreign legion of France. He thought, therefore, that the measure would prove ineffectual; he next considered its policy, premising that it was not genuine or just to taunt the Opposition with obstructing measures necessary for carrying on the war. The inference drawn by foreigners from this project was, that our recruiting power was exhausted; and if this was its effect upon foreigners, what must be its effect in England? The confession of the Government was calculated to paralyze its power and to depress the spirit of the country.

When gentlemen go to the country in a few days—I understand we are to be absent a month—there may be moments when the *battus* is exhausted, or when there may be a frost; and then I recommend gentlemen to refresh their memories by turning to the pages of Thucydides; I recommend them to read the speech of Nicias to the Athenian Assembly, where he says, "Men of Athens, I know, that you do not like to hear the truth; but understand this—you sent me out to be a besieger, but lo! I am besieged." (Cheers.) Now, sir, we know what was the end of the Sicilian expedition. May the Divine Providence which has guarded ever inviolate the island of the sage and free, save us from a similar condition! But at least let us do now what the Athenians did even in their proud despair. They sacrificed to the gods and appealed to the energies of their countrymen. We, at a moment, not, I believe of equal danger—we, in a situation which I pray may end in triumph, but still a situation of doubt, of terrible anxiety, even of anguish, we bring in a bill, in order to enlist foreign mercenaries to vindicate the honour of England! (Great cheering.)

Mr. MUNTZ, without altering his opinion of the necessity of the war, could not vote for this bill, although its defeat should cause the Government to resign.

Lord J. RUSSELL replied. The present situation was this—Parliament had voted 170,000 men, but the actual number raised fell short of that number by more than 20,000, and many of those who enlisted were too young for service. It might be true that the country was unanimous in supporting the war, yet the supply of the nerve and sinew by which the war must be carried on fell short of the immediate necessity. The measure was confessedly an expedient, but none better had been suggested to meet the pending exigency. Adverting to the general conduct of the war, the noble lord submitted that the results of the campaign were far from insignificant, and concluded in the following strain:—

We are carrying on military operations of great hazard I was one who believed that the facilities of attacking Sebastopol were greater than they have turned out to be, and, in consequence, there has been a degree of privation and hardship among our troops, and, at the same time, the necessity for displaying a degree of courage which has hardly ever been paralleled in the history of the world. (Cheers.) I admit I was mistaken, and high military and naval authorities—both of England and France were also mistaken in their estimates of the strength of Sebastopol. Sir, the right hon. gentleman gloats over the prospect of disaster—(loud Ministerial cheers)—and he falls to the pages of his *Thucydides* for the calamities that happened to the Athenian army. I do not envy him his satisfaction. (Cheers.) I still trust that the British army will remain to be victorious—that the flags of England and France will float in triumph in the Crimea, and that these two great nations fighting in the cause of the liberties of Europe and European civilisation, will still triumph over every obstacle that numbers and barbarism can best. (Loud cheering.)

Col. SIBTHORP and the Marquis BLANDFORD interposed a few remarks rendered almost unintelligible by the loud calls for a division.

The House divided—

For the second reading 241
Against 202
Majority for the Government 39

The bill was then read a second time, and ordered to be committed this day. Mr. DISRAELI said if the bill were persevered with at the present time he should oppose it at every stage.

The House adjourned at twenty minutes to two o'clock.

THE WAR.

The bearer of the treaty from Vienna to St. Petersburg is Count Zichy, who is described as possessing some influence with the Czar, or at all events, as being on a footing of intimacy with him. Prince Paskievitch, after an interview with the Count, also departed for St. Petersburg.

A letter from Odessa of the 2nd, states that the inhabitants of Odessa continued to be in daily fear of seeing the allied fleets arrive.

Prussia (according to accounts from Vienna) desires to avoid acceding to the treaty of the 2nd of December, by endeavouring to conclude a special treaty with France.

The Emperor of Austria has nominated the Emperor Napoleon Grand Cross of the Order of St. Stephen.

Letters from St. Petersburg state that the news of the hurricane on the 14th and the loss of the allies on the Crimean coast was received with an outburst of joy. This feeling was soon tempered by other reports from the Crimea, which told the pitiful state of the Russian troops themselves. They had been almost without provisions or forage during several days. The tempest had not only scattered and destroyed convoys, but even the ricks of forage, and so forth, of the inhabitants.

The programme of the Danish ministry recognises the alteration in the fundamental law, by which parliamentary representatives may have legislative power in financial questions, and in enacting laws. Members are to be nominated by the King. The foreign policy remains unchanged.

MARYLEBONE ELECTION.

Lord Ebrington is the member for Marylebone, having yesterday been returned by a majority of 2,773 over his opponent, Mr. Bell. From the first hour of polling Lord Ebrington assumed the lead, and steadily maintained and increased it throughout the day. Subjoined is the return supplied by the committee of the successful candidate at the close of the poll:—

	Ebrington.	Bell.	Majority.
4 o'clock	6,940	4,167	2,773

Supposing there to have been no split votes, there have been recorded at this election 11,107 votes out of a register of 20,431 electors. Lord Ebrington has polled 1,573 more votes than were ever recorded in favour of any candidate, and has obtained a larger majority over Mr. Bell than was ever obtained by the Liberals in the days when they had to contest the borough with the Tories. The official declaration of the numbers will be made to-day at noon.

Yesterday, Robert Stayner Holford, Esq., of Westonbirt, a Conservative, was elected without opposition to represent the Eastern division of Gloucestershire in Parliament.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, Wednesday, Dec. 20, 1854.

The Trade for all descriptions of Grain quiet, but every article held at fully Monday's rates.

Arrivals this week:—Wheat, English, 1,010 qrs.; Foreign, 1,020 qrs.; Barley, English, 1,060 qrs.; Oats, English, 630 qrs.; Irish, 1,170 qrs.; Foreign, 2,330 qrs.; Flour English, 220 sacks; Foreign, 120 sacks.

THE NONCONFORMIST.

A First-class Newspaper, and organ of advanced Political and Ecclesiastical Opinion.

EDITED by EDWARD MIALI, M.P.

ESTABLISHED IN 1841.

Published every WEDNESDAY Afternoon,

PRICE 6d.

USUAL CONTENTS:

Articles on the leading Ecclesiastical, Political, and Social Topics of the day, written in a liberal and unsectarian spirit. The pith of the week's news in an attractive form, and adapted for family reading.

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Reviews and Notices of New Publications.

Reports of Religious, Educational, and Philanthropic Meetings.

Information on Science and Art—Literary Gossip—Gleanings, &c.

During the past year, a gratis Supplement of Eight Pages, containing copious reviews of new books, has been published with the *Nonconformist* every six weeks. Prominent attention has been given to questions affecting religious freedom, which have come before Parliament:—such as Church-rates, Ministers' Money (Ireland), the admission of Dissenters to the Universities, the Colonial Clergy Disabilities Bill, the Irish Regium Donum, Oaths and Affirmations, and the Education of the People. During the session, "Notes from the House of Commons" were published every week. A full analysis of the important Census Returns on Religion and Education was given with comments. Copious reports of all public meetings of a religious and philanthropic nature have been inserted. Special attention has been bestowed upon the war news of the week, so as to make it both full and authentic, and put it in the most attractive shape. Occasional correspondence from our colonies, especially from Australia, has also found a place in the columns of the *Nonconformist*; and various social questions, such as the Dwellings of the Poor, Juvenile Crime, the Law of Partnership, the Temperance question, &c., have been repeatedly discussed.

On the same plan the *Nonconformist* will continue to be conducted. While maintaining its character as an organ of advanced ecclesiastical and political principles and discussing every public question in their light, increased attention will be bestowed upon the other departments of the paper with the view of imparting greater novelty and interest to its contents, of furnishing the freshest and latest news, and of making it, in all respects, an ATTRACTIVE FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

The "NOTES FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS" will be continued during the session of Parliament.

The *Nonconformist* is one of the largest-sized newspapers published, containing twenty-four pages, or seventy-two columns of closely-printed matter.

The articles in the *Nonconformist* are extensively quoted by the provincial and colonial newspapers, and the highest testimony has been borne to its merits. The following are one or two extracts from contemporary literature:—

"On many subjects one of the ablest writers of the weekly press."—*Westminster Review*.

"The Dissenters of Great Britain owe much to the *Nonconformist*. Of the ability with which it has been carried on there can be but one opinion, and on the question of its fidelity the verdict must be equally unanimous."—*Eclectic Review*.

"The *Nonconformist* has done faithful and efficient service to the cause of civil and religious freedom."—*Leeds Times*.

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Published by WILLIAM FREEMAN, 69, Fleet-street, and orders received by all news agents throughout the kingdom.

. Copies of the above in the form of a small tract, may be obtained of the Publisher on or after Saturday next, by any friends who may be desirous of circulating it.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We are requested to acknowledge the receipt of a second subscription to the *Liberation of Religion Society*, forwarded by "A Bucks' Tenant Farmer."

. We shall be obliged if all paragraphs of "Religious Intelligence," &c., are sent to us not later than Monday morning; otherwise, while there is such plethora of general news, there is great difficulty in inserting them.

A Correspondent at Newcastle-on-Tyne, desires us to warn our readers against an imposter calling herself Mrs. Johnstone, who gives her address "William-street, Wilson's-lane, near Glasgow," and who has attempted to obtain money in several places in the North, under pretence of assisting her to proceed to that city. Her statements are entirely unworthy of confidence.

Received for Mrs. Kitto:—	£	s.	d.
John Canning, Esq., Brentford.	1	1	0
George Anderson, Esq., Leicester.	0	5	0
J. B. Birmingham	...	...	...
J. P. E.	...	...	...
	0	2	6

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1854.

SUMMARY.

ALTHOUGH the Parliamentary discussions on war topics are of more immediate interest, they cannot avert attention from the theatre of hostilities. The news from Sebastopol is very gloomy. The brief but somewhat favourable announcements of the telegraph are not borne out by detailed information. It is not alone that the siege is practically suspended, the camp a slough of mud, the tracks to Balaklava nearly impracticable, our

troops leading a life compared with which the beggar in the streets of London is to be envied, and cholera, in conjunction with other diseases, carrying off its sixty victims a day; but the great fortress is positively growing stronger as the siege advances. New works rise up every week, and the allied commanders seem now almost driven to the alternative of giving battle to the Russians in the open plains. It is understood, however, that Omar Pasha, with the flower of his army, proceeds to Eupatoria to intercept further reinforcements, that the Russians in the field are enduring untold hardships, and that impassable roads threaten yet greater trials. The retirement of General Liprandi from the heights of Balaklava indicates the difficult position of the Czar's forces. Perhaps by this time the allied troops are more comfortably sheltered and provided for. It is to be hoped that the comforts and luxuries sent out in such profusion by private munificence will not arrive too late.

The exterior aspect of the war is not more encouraging. All the news from St. Petersburg speaks of persistence and further preparations. Sir Charles Napier has returned to England, and the Baltic expedition is at an end. The Russian ambassador remains at Vienna—the best commentary on the new treaty. That document has been sent off to St. Petersburg by an Austrian envoy, and Prince Paskiewitch has proceeded to the capital with the intention, it is thought, of counselling a peaceful decision. Prussia declines to become a party to the triple alliance, which is resented as a slight to the Court of Berlin, but is about to send a special mission to France and England, with explanations, and to state the engagements she is willing to enter into with the Western Powers. Meanwhile she continues preparations—but on the Rhine frontier.

The diplomatic aspects of the war are now best seen through the medium of Parliamentary statements. Thus, the presentation of the Austrian treaty—which we have analysed and canvassed in another column—preceded by a vigorous expression of distrust and suspicion from Lord Clanricarde, drew from the Earl of Clarendon a speech in its defence. The gist of the noble Earl's speech lay in the statement that the Austrian commander in the Principalities actually proposed to concert with St. Arnaud and Raglan operations against Russia, to which we preferred undertaking the Crimean expedition. If the Foreign Minister attaches any value to this fact, he should have made it known in time at least to prevent his own colleague, the Lord President, from charging on Austria the aggravation of our difficulties in the Crimea. In the public mind it only provokes now the enquiries,—Did not General Hess know that the concert he proposed would be declined? and why did you prefer the hazardous attempt upon Sebastopol to the certain annihilation of the Russian armies in and about the Pruth, with the additional advantage of nailing Austria to our cause?

It would have been only just to the nation, though perhaps inconvenient to his party, had the Earl of Derby taken this opportunity of expanding his hints of dislike to the Austrian alliance. But he certainly gave faithful and eloquent expression to the national sentiment in supporting the Earl of Ellenborough's opposition to the Foreign Enlistment Bill—which escaped defeat, upon the motion for going into committee, by a majority of only twelve votes. On the same evening, their lordships voted thanks to the army and navy, in moving and seconding which, the Duke of Newcastle and the Earl of Derby displayed their characteristically diverse oratorical qualities to high advantage. Lord Brougham would have contributed to the general effect by another variety of eloquence; but did not appear in the House till Monday, when he gave energetic expression to the prevailing sentiment against Russia, and offered excuses for Austria.

The unpopularity incurred by Mr. Bright in opposing himself to the general feeling, has been formally expressed and boldly met. A meeting was summoned by the Mayor of Manchester, on requisition, for the purpose of repudiating the views entertained in the letter to Mr. Absalom Watkins. The impeached member courageously presented himself—persisted, through a scene of prolonged tumult, in asserting his right, as an individual, to express his individual convictions—and found so many to stand by him, simply in the assertion of this right, that the Mayor declined to decide whether resolution or amendment were carried. In a more peaceful meeting held immediately subsequent, Mr. Bright reiterated his censures on the policy that led us into the war, but also effectually refuted the silly imputation of sympathy with Russia, and the graver charge of indifference to the sufferings or hopes of "the oppressed nationalities"—a phrase we dare to rewrite despite the sneers of the Duke of Argyll. By the result of the town's meeting, Mr. Bright is relieved from the apprehension that Manchester will forget her gratitude for his years of eminent service, and her pride in his high Parliamentary

position, in a temporary antagonism,—and by larger utterances in the spirit of his speech at the League-rooms, he may more than recover his former popularity; which should not be despised,—for it is power.

Marylebone has returned Lord Ebrington by a large majority. Marylebone could do no other. A candidate with a title has always an immense advantage over a candidate with only a name—especially in democratic constituencies. And really, this distinction between Ebrington and Bell seems to have been the only distinction bold enough for the electoral mind to grasp. A gentleman better known as a Liberal at St. Alban's than at St. Stephen's, and who, for want of a better cry, has to take up the Fine Arts, had small claims over a Viscount, who having been Whig member for Plymouth was willing to be Radical member for Marylebone. To choose between too 'such candidates, in such a constituency, was a melancholy strait—to see a great electoral contest fought out, in a European crisis, on parish vestry principles, was a melancholy spectacle. The electors of Marylebone made a great blunder in omitting from the first, to set up their standard for a successor to Dudley Stuart, and refuse any man, however pretentious, below that standard. They did well in catechising, closely as possible, the candidates they had, particularly on ecclesiastical questions. This last is an example is to be commended. But the moral of the story—First catch your candidate, not wait to be caught by him.

A rumour that the Emperor of the French has been seriously taking counsel with his ministers on the propriety of giving his mercurial subjects a more direct control in the government of the country, has an air of novelty even beyond the report of patriotic and anti-Russian sentiments having been uttered in the Prussian Chambers, on the motion of M. M. Vincke and Bethmann-Hollweg for responding to the royal address. King Frederick William does not encourage such rejoinders. The duty of the Chambers is to vote the public money, and receive such statements as his ministers may vouchsafe. At present, however, it appears that the poor irresolute Sovereign is, like his Imperial sister at St. Petersburg, laid aside with illness.—His royal brother of Denmark has emerged into popularity. A liberal ministry has replaced the old Tory regime, and the sittings of the new assembly are opened with *eclat* amid the enthusiastic loyalty of the citizens of Copenhagen. It is not unworthy of notice that our admiral in the Eastern seas has followed the example of Commodore Perry of the United States navy, in concluding a treaty with Japan, by which two ports in that hitherto secluded empire are open to our commerce.

President Pierce's message to Congress is, on the whole, tame and decorous. He very assiduously lays down the neutral policy of the Union in the war (the reputed official journals have openly expressed their sympathies with the Czar!); indicates that the United States would be likely to fall in with any international arrangement for the suppression of privateering; slurs over the temporary difference with France; hints that differences with Spain are not yet settled, though much is to be hoped from the new government; apologises for, rather than defends, the destruction of Greytown; and congratulates the country upon a flourishing revenue and a surplus, so considerable, as to warrant a further reduction of import duties. The Presidential message has less interest than usual from the fact that Mr. Pierce has lost much of his political importance in the growing strength of "Know-nothingism," and the development of the anti-Nebraska feeling in the north.

NOTES FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE short preliminary session, commenced on Tuesday se'nnight with a reasonable amount of "sound and fury signifying nothing," has not exhibited in its progress, as seems to have been expected, a rapid development of interest. The debate on the Address was resumed for an hour or two on Wednesday morning, on the bringing up of the report—but it was like a hash of viands of which one has already had a surfeit. The speaking was done chiefly by members who, the evening before, had probably been cheated out of their opportunity at the dinner-hour by the early rising and long speech of Mr. Sidney Herbert, and who, having loaded and primed, were fain to fire off their pieces after the fray, rather than not fire at all. Not a single idea was put forward which had not already been done to rags—not a single argument was presented in a new light. This *cacœthes dicendi* is one of the saddest characteristics of the House of Commons, in which more than half that is said is but a faint echo of the other half, returned by members who never think of inquiring whether what they are about to utter will contribute anything to the common stock of views and arguments already possessed by the House.

The Militia Bill, the object of which is to enable Her Majesty to accept of voluntary offers of ser-

vice, by Militia, in garrisons abroad, was introduced by Lord Palmerston on Wednesday, after a short explanatory speech, read a second time on Thursday, almost without debate, and passed through committee on Monday, Lord Palmerston having substantially adopted some amendments urged upon him by the Opposition.

Thanks to the Army and Navy, and to those of our allies, engaged in the Crimea and the Black Sea, formed the sole topic of both Houses on Friday last. Here, at least, one might have supposed, there was both occasion and scope for impressive oratory. The materials existed in abundance, inviting descriptive power to weave them into a brilliant tissue, and prompting emotions of the intensest order. A rapid and well-arranged narrative, clothed in the simplest garb, taken as a basis for suitable reflections, could scarcely fail of exciting interest, and might, in the hands of a master, have kindled a flame of enthusiasm perfectly irresistible. But Lord John Russell contrived to deliver himself on this theme of a speech so dry and heavy, so utterly devoid of animation, so clumsy in workmanship, so sonorously hollow in manner, as to throw over a full House, first a disappointing sense of dullness, then an unmistakable feeling of weariness, and lastly, on both sides, and in several instances, the spell of profound sleep. It is difficult to describe, without an appearance of malice, all the features of inappositeness and inadequacy to the occasion which the manner of the noble lord betrayed. Lord John's pronunciation is as broad and gaping in character as you may hear from any lounging exquisite at the West End clubs—his utterance is slow and broken, and his sentences stagger along like a carrier's cart in a bye lane, suggesting bad roads, and painful effort. His tone is the drowsiest Parliamentary sing-song, more unlife-like and unnatural than is often heard, even in the pulpit. On this occasion, he infused into it double solemnity, and yet it seemed as the solemnity of an official ceremony rather than that of deep feeling. His action is a perpetual oscillation between two attitudes—a step forwards with arms akimbo, and a step backwards with hands under his coat lap-pets. A foreigner might easily have imagined that he was proposing some railroad bill, with the details of which he was but imperfectly acquainted, so dull, hesitating, and monotonous was his delivery. The House, martial as it is in its sympathies, displayed anything but eager interest. The eulogium on Lord Raglan elicited but a feeble response. The allusion to Sir Edmund Lyons was much more warmly received—but the heartiest cheer followed Lord John's declaration that, in using the phrase, "the best blood of England," he meant the description, not for those who held high military or social rank, but for those poor labourers who had bravely done a soldier's duty. On the whole, the speech fell flat upon an audience less than usually disposed to be critical, and its conclusion was hailed as a relief, rather than cheered as a triumph.

Mr. Disraeli, as leader of the Opposition, seconded the motion—but neither was he very happy. When most quiet, and least pretentious, he is most effective. He is never without a sprinkling of well-turned and suggestive expressions. More or less, he is sure to deal out some felicitous hits. His topics, too, are usually well chosen, and ingeniously put together. But the great vice of his manner is, that he never strikes you as being in earnest—not when he is loudest in tone, and most violent in gesticulation. There is no ring of the heart in his speeches. One listens to them as to oratorical exercises, in which the speaker is supposed to care not a button for his theme, but only about his clever treatment of it. Mr. Disraeli, when alluding to the losses which the war had inflicted upon the House, faltered and paused as if overcome with deep emotion. It might be real—but, if so, it was quickly mastered—for his next sentence showed that not a trace of it remained. Still, there was a certain gracefulness in his effusion, taken as a whole, to which must be added the uncommon praise that it was neither long nor tedious. When he resumed his seat, Mr. Drummond, as if to complete the *mal-apropos* conduct of this legislative ceremonial, got up a discussion upon the behaviour of Admiral Dundas, into which his indiscreet zeal on behalf of his gallant friend, dragged Mr. Layard and some half-dozen other members—a quarrel which was hushed with difficulty, and which was followed by the question being put and carried.

The debate last night on the Foreigners' Enlistment Bill was of an entirely different character. The measure was viewed by the majority of the House with great distaste. For ourselves, we can aver that we conversed with but few members, even on the Government side of the House, who did not condemn it. But Ministers had chosen to stake their continuance in office on the issue, and honourable gentlemen by scores, scared at the responsibility of causing a change of administration, preferred to "eat the leek." So uncertain, however, was the result considered in the early

part of the day, that the excitement of the House mounted to a rare height. The whips were active, anxious, and urgent—members had been summoned from all parts of the country—speculations were rife as to who would step into the offices likely to be vacated—and every premonition betokened a close and earnest struggle.

An earnest struggle it was. Since the ejection of the Derby ministry, we have not listened to so able and well sustained a debate. Lord John Russell opened it with a number of historical precedents which did not apply, some declamation which failed to tell, and little ground to show the necessity of his proposal. Sir E. Lytton Bulwer led the opposition, in a lengthy but able oration, delivered with more energy and freedom than is his wont. And whereas Lord John was coldly listened to and but feebly and infrequently applauded by his friends behind him, the hon. baronet was cheered by the Conservatives to the very echo. Mr. Monckton Milnes, Mr. Adderley, Mr. Watson, member for Hull, and Mr. E. Ball, kept up the discussion, not without interest, during dinner hours. Then came Mr. Milner Gibson, whose short speech was to the measure like the nail which Jael drove into the head of Sisera—so sharp was its point, so close its texture, so vigorously driven home. That nail Mr. G. Phillimore briefly but decisively clinched. The case of ministers was looking dismal, when Mr. Sidney Herbert rose to shed upon it fresh light. He never spoke better, as to manner—as to matter, we doubt whether he did more good than harm. His two points were that we could only enlist boys where we wanted men—and that German emigrants were precisely the description of men needed. But Lord Stanley with a vain of sterling good sense disposed of these positions, and left the preponderance of argument with those who objected to the bill. Lord Palmerston was dashing but vague—animated but not very pungent—and appealed to the passions more than to the judgment of his audience. Mr. Disraeli was happier than he has been for a long time. He had a case, and he knew how to make it tell. He flagged occasionally—but his blows were heavy and well aimed, and he was uproariously cheered by his friends. Mr. Muntz hurled against the bill and against Ministers a succession of outspoken truths needing to be uttered by some one, and not unfitly uttered by him. Lord John replied with a dash of his old spirit, but in a strain which suggested to many the question, what can be our object in prolonging the present war. Col. Sibthorp screamed out a few sentences which were drowned in impatient calls for a division, and Lord Blandford, amidst universal hubbub, recommended a form of prayer for the safety of our army. At half-past one this morning the House divided, when the numbers appeared, Ayes 241, Noes 202; majority for the Government 39.

MERCENARY TROOPS.

THE proposal of Government to enlist in her Majesty's service from ten to fifteen thousand foreign troops has taken the public by surprise. The grounds upon which it has been put forward are not generally deemed to be strong enough to justify a measure to which so many exceptions may be taken. The nation has insisted on a vigorous prosecution of the war, but the employment of mercenaries never entered into its head either as a sign or as a development of vigour. The necessity for taking this step has not been demonstrated. The moral effect which it will have, both upon our own army, and upon the enemy, is considered to be of a very undesirable kind. The accession of force which will be thereby gained is looked upon as comparatively unimportant. On the whole, Parliamentary and public opinion concur in viewing the proposition as a mistake. That the measure will be rejected, however, is by no means certain. Upon her Majesty's Ministers devolves the primary responsibility of conducting the war, and few will have the courage to refuse them any kind of assistance that they declare themselves to need.

Had the proposal been one of a special character, it would, doubtless, have met a more favourable reception. If leave had been asked to enrol a Polish legion, there would have been an apparent fitness in the demand which would have silenced at once a score of objections. That would have been no mercenary corps. It would have argued no conscious weakness. Its presence in the field would have paralysed the Emperor's right arm, for what division of his troops is there which does not contain vast numbers of disaffected Poles? It would have been a powerful attraction, serving to drain off, in rills and streams of desertion, vast numbers of unhappy men, whose country the Czar has swept with desolation, and whose compulsory service to himself nothing but despair could prolong. The formation of such a corps might have been hailed by the public as a notable instance of retributive justice, and it would probably have been felt that a blow levelled against Russian despotism by a Polish weapon, would read to all

Europe the solemn lesson, that deeds of oppression, sooner or later, bring with them their own punishment. But this, as we understand, is very far from being the design of the Government. Their purpose seems to be to hire troops from certain German and Swiss States, and to despatch them as soon as possible to the re-inforcement of our army in the East. To this course, we see grave objections, quite independently of those which we entertain against the policy of this war.

In the first place, we deem it, not merely impolitic but calamitous, to resort to any means in the prosecution of this war, which will have the effect of lessening that solemn sense of responsibility resulting from the exposure of our own countrymen to privation, suffering, and death. If war be, indeed, a necessity, it is well that the judgment finally appealed to should be that of men who have to participate in the endurance of its evils. Painful as are the bereavements which this struggle has brought upon the families of all classes in the empire, it is better that they should be felt by the original parties to the war, than by those who have no connexion with it. The hardships, the losses, the bleeding hearts, the broken spirits, which war necessarily entails, make a part of that severe discipline which every people ought to feel they have taken upon themselves, when once they have resolved upon an appeal to the sword. It is fitting that every government should know that these must constitute "part and parcel" of their decision in throwing down the gauntlet to other powers. Otherwise, imagination can set no bounds to the horrors that might ensue. If it were possible for us to evade all the dire penalties of warfare but those only which attack our purse—to calculate to a penny what hostilities will cost us annually—to know no sorrow in connexion with international strife but such as might arise from increased taxation—if we were permitted us to devolve upon strangers all the anxiety, distress, and suffering, which danger and death bring to the families of soldiers—if, in a word, we could pay down our price, hire our tools, and risk neither personal nor relative tranquillity in the employment of them—war would be endless, and a full treasury would be a national curse. War would come to be viewed in the light of a Stock Exchange speculation. Its horrors would not be chronicled. Its agents would excite no sympathy. Its passions would be restrained by no sense of honour. Its decisions would be followed by no conscientious retrospection. Armies would become banditti to be let out to the highest bidder—and contests, would be entered upon and protracted with much the same indifference as railway undertakings—sometimes in a reckless spirit of rivalry, sometimes in hope that they might ultimately pay. The principle is a bad one, and we hope it will receive no countenance.

Then again, war, like pestilence, dearth, inundation, tempest, is so great and positive an evil in itself—inflicts such an immense amount and variety of suffering—that we are bound to cherish with gratitude any compensatory discipline which may accompany it. In the earnestness of soul which it begets—in the tenderness of commiseration which it calls forth—in the spirit of self-sacrifice which it engenders—in the unselfish concern for others which it promotes—in the energy of will stimulated by its difficulties—in the promptitude to act awakened by its necessities—in the inventive benevolence evoked by its miseries—in its dissipation of social sloth and listlessness—it does something to mitigate among a people its own waste and ruin. Since such an agency there is in human affairs, let us rejoice that it may be attended with merciful alleviations—that the bitter cup may have its uses—and that God can make the wrath of man to praise him. But conceive of war without any such indirect and incidental mitigations. Imagine it carried on as a dangerous trade merely, which it would be, if carried on by foreign mercenaries. In that case, its reflex influence would be only debasing and brutalising. It would lose none of its evils—it would scatter as profusely as now its seeds of sorrow—its path would be even more demoralising—but it would do nothing to sober intoxicated nations—nothing to compel them to generous and thoughtful consideration—nothing to force into development the better elements of their nature. It would be the drunkenness of night without the headache of the morning, and without the wise resolutions to which that headache prompts.

Besides these general reasons against the enlistment of foreign troops, based on the diminution which it will effect in the national sense of responsibility in relation to the war, and on its tendency to neutralise the moral discipline of the people which would seem to be the only compensation we can extract from it, there are special reasons why we should not resort to such a measure at this particular juncture of affairs. It is an experiment which may be fraught with issues as unfavourable, as they are unexpected. At present, the chief strength of our army in the Crimea, consists in the unvarying allegiance of our soldiers of all ranks to a stern sense of duty. But who can

guarantee the prevalence of any such feeling in mercenary troops who will have few or none of those influences to control them which act so powerfully upon British hearts? Who will venture to say that they will do nothing to disturb that generous rivalry and cordial amity between French and English soldiers which now happily subsist? If they should be equally brave in the field, who can ensure that they will be equally submissive under privation, equally cheerful in endurance? Are we sure that under trying circumstances they will not prove a nucleus of discontent, radiating all around them a half mutinous spirit? What hold will our officers have upon them? What master argument to sway recalcitrant wills? Who could reasonably expect from them that indomitable constancy, which was displayed by our own men at the battle of Inkermann? And, let it be remembered that, at critical moments, cowardice is contagious. Ten thousand men who fall below the standard of military discipline and valour common to our troops in the Crimea—and who fall below it for the simple reason that they are not sustained by the same motives—will add weakness rather than strength to our army. Well, with this uncertainty before us, we question the wisdom of making any such experiment except under pressure of an overwhelming necessity—and no such necessity has yet been made out.

Principle and policy alike compel us to protest against this measure. It is one of those hurried proposals born of fright. It indicates on the part of Ministers a want of self-reliance. It betokens the vigour of desperation, rather than of far-reaching statesmanship. It is unworthy of the position ostentatiously taken up by the Government. It is humiliating to the country. And should the bill be pressed, we hope the House of Commons will have firmness enough to reject it.

THE "SHAM" TREATY.

It thus that M. Kossuth,—in a letter to the citizens of Norwich, declining, for the present, a public invitation to address them,—characterises the treaty between France, England, and Austria, announced by Her Majesty from the throne as concluded, and fraught with anticipated "advantages."

A little after midnight of the same day, Lord John Russell,—alarmed at the peroration of a speech which itself need have given him no concern,—alarmed at the denunciation by Disraeli of "equivocal alliances,"—undertook to justify to the House the words he and his colleagues had put into the mouth of the Sovereign. But this he did in the language of regret, dissatisfaction, and uncertainty. He would tell the House what he *thought* had been, and was, the position of Austria. He had never been satisfied with her position. He lamented that, by her "tardiness," she had placed us at so great a disadvantage in the Crimea. He regretted that now she had not gone far enough, or so far as she was "expected" to go. She had not pledged herself to make war against Russia,—but only, if Russia, by the end of the year, did not accept the terms proposed by her in conjunction with us, to deliberate what should next be done. Even to these terms she might, at the last moment, object, should they appear to her too hard upon Russia; and might honourably refuse to go with us into the fight. From which explanation one would gather that, in fact, no treaty of alliance had been made, but only a treaty of convenience—a treaty from which Austria might recede at the critical moment, without Lord John's "wishing to impute to her a breach of faith."

On Friday evening the treaty itself was laid before Parliament. It consists of a preamble and seven articles. The preamble declares the object of this agreement to be the termination of hostilities "by the re-establishment of the general peace on such solid bases as shall give to the whole of Europe full security against the return of these unhappy disturbances." The first article binds the three contracting powers "not to enter into any separate engagement with the Court of Russia until they shall have deliberated in common." The second article engages Austria to defend the Principalities against Russia, without obstruction to the free movements of the Anglo-French or Ottoman troops;—a joint commission, to include representatives of Turkey, being appointed as a court of appeal on questions of administration. The third and fourth articles ensure Austria "the offensive and defensive alliance" of England and France "in case hostilities should break out between Austria and Russia;" and prohibit the entertainment of overtures from Russia without a common understanding. The fifth article limits the treaty to the expiration of the present year—failing the re-establishment of peace by which time, "on the bases indicated in Article I,"—the three contracting powers will "deliberate without delay upon effectual means for obtaining the object of their alliance." The sixth article invites the accession of Prussia to the league. The seventh article merely provides that ratifications shall be exchanged within fourteen days.*

What is the result of this analysis? That by

this treaty Austria simply pledges us to assist her should Russia strike at her before she has made up her mind to assist us; and not to make peace with Russia without giving her an opportunity of siding with Russia. It ties up our hands to the acceptance of the terms said to be intimated in Article I, but that are neither implied nor expressed. It places in the hands of Austria the dearly purchased fruits of our victories. It guarantees the power of two imperial nations for the defence, from a powerful and vindictive neighbour, of an empire that is not a nation. In despite of Lord Aberdeen's denial that there is any such understanding, we cannot but see that it also binds us to defend that political monstrosity from disruption by internal dissensions—inasmuch as the attacks of Russia are prettily sure to take the direction of the discontented provinces. And in return for all this, it simply undertakes that Austria will do next year what she has done this year-and-a-half past—deliberate.

But her January deliberations are to be "without delay," and "upon effectual means." We do not affect to doubt the literal obligation of these provisions,—but we do doubt the sincerity of the party assenting to them; Austria having just the same motives for delay in January next as in January last. Her army is no doubt in a more efficient state, but the permanent conditions of her safety are in no way changed. Her jealousy of the power of Russia may very possibly have been strengthened—but her sympathies with Russian principles have not been diminished. Her frontier and capital are no less than ever exposed to military attack, and incapable of maritime defence. Hungary, Galicia, and Italy, are certainly not unexcited by the prospect of her embroilment with Russia. Why, then, should she incur the enmity of a power who can do her so much harm, for the friendship of powers who can give her so little help? Why should she suddenly become, instead of the ally and client of the great autocrat, the hopeless victim of his resentment? Why should she affect this sudden interest for the integrity of an empire she has incessantly striven, with Russia, to dismember? Why should she ally herself with a parvenu Emperor and a constitutional Queen? To all but this last question, there is no answer—but the answer to that explains the whole. By diplomacy, Austria may keep all that by neutrality she would risk, and by war would lose. Long ago it was said to her, in a Latin epigram, "While others wage war, thou, happy Austria, wed!" By her diplomatists she was made an empire—by her diplomatists she has been repeatedly saved—by her diplomatists she hopes again to avoid the battle, but divide the spoil. Vienna is the diplomatic capital of Europe. If the conferences that were to untie the knot we are now affecting to cut, had been held anywhere but at Vienna, Austria's place would have been gone for ever. She is the grandmamma of the European family of states; and if she be not consulted about everything, would die of hysteria. Perpetually threatened by the rivalry of Prussia and the hatred of her own subjects, she lives on the deference of the great powers. Therefore it is that she has busied herself in this quarrel—and reduced it, in all but costliness, to a squabble. Therefore it is that she must keep in it, at whatever hazard. The hazard just now is imminent—for the Czar may resent her unfaithfulness to him; and the Western Powers may insist upon her no more fooling them. But we have little expectation that it will come to either issue—for supreme is Austrian ingenuity, and inexhaustible the resources of her art. We are only concerned that the rulers of France and England should not place, beyond recall, the honour and strength of these great nations in the hands of a power that systematically meets earnestness with dissimulation, entails disaster upon associates, and repays her saviours with ingratitude.

POLAND—A POLITICAL SPECULATION.

We have seen that Poland is still a nation. The people who have struggled through seventy years to keep erect, though on a fragment of their native soil, the image of their nationality, and have carried with them the idea of nationality into bondage or exile, must be capable,—we have concluded,—of a collective self-existence. Their latter history,—we have felt, as we went over its blood-stained pages,—is the prophecy of their restoration.

But this is the language of sentiment only—and what we want is, to answer the objections of men of no sentiment; to show that not only is there a Poland to be restored, but a choice of forms in which she may re-appear among the nations.

Poland in her ancient territorial integrity we may not hope to restore. The Poland that extended "from the river to the sea" has so long been blotted out of the map, and has been broken into so many pieces, that we may despair of its reconstitution. The country that was more than sixty years ago annexed to Russia on the one side, to Austria on another side, and to Prussia on a third side, was not so indented with harbours or studded

with towns as to resist those transpositions of inhabitants by which despots disfigure what they steal—nor did it contain either of the ancient capitals, Cracow and Warsaw. It has therefore been absorbed as well as annexed. Its restoration to the fatherland would involve injustice and cruelty to many families of the new generation. It has been too thickly sown with the seeds of other races to make a repartition absolutely just or wise. The comparative contentedness of the Polish population of these parts, indicates that reconquest might be as unjust as insurrection would be difficult. And the fact that Prussian Poland, being Prussia's market-place, and Galicia, being Austria's wealth, would be stoutly struggled for by those powers, indicates that we must look elsewhere for the scene of Poland's reconstitution.

The modern kingdom of Poland and Republic of Cracow, we may hope to restore, singly or jointly. We have always believed that had France and England interfered, though only by remonstrance, early in 1831, Nicholas would have been glad, if only for his reputation in Europe, to have continued to the Poles the constitution guaranteed them in 1815. By the same means, we should have prevented the absorption of Cracow. Up to the outbreaks of 1848, we never saw reason to despair of so great a concession to the moral force of the Western nations. By assenting to the invasion of Hungary and the expedition to Rome, those nations stripped themselves of all moral force. Thenceforth, there has seemed no appeal but, sooner or later, to the sword. Now that the sword has been drawn, and so deeply fleshed, what hope is there—what way of action? What shape can be given to Polish restoration as a political resource?

This,—and only this,—that we can discover. The object of the war being even so small a thing as the safety of Turkey, so great a matter as trans-Danubian independence must be sought. The countries lying between Russia and Turkey must be made the seat of independent governments and free peoples. Constitute the Principalities absolutely independent, with the right to fortify the Pruth, and the obligation to keep open the Danube. Restore to Hungary those rights of self-government which she enjoyed before the War of Independence—including the right to make peace or war separately from Austria, still, if Hungary will have it, her nominal sovereign. Re-establish in Warsaw and Cracow the Diet, under king or president; with ability to make practical the community of Polish, Hungarian, and Wallachian interests. Recover for Poland the seaports which Russia now holds. Do these things, and you wall out from central and southern Europe the barbarian hordes of the north and east; while you also semi-circle Russia with the influences of civilization. Leave to each of these countries the liberty of settling its own form of Government, and the duty of maintaining its own independence. And trust to those instincts which have suddenly revived even in the Turk, for their discharge of the mission thus devolved upon them.

We see but one difficulty in the way of doing all this. The consent of Austria has to be obtained. Being at war with Russia, we have the moral right to conquer from her such concessions as shall ensure the future permanence of peace; and we do, besides, no injustice to her in compelling the restitution of plunder yet unabsorbed. With Austria we are not at war—but she desires to be in alliance with us for a certain object. Why not point out to her that it can be attained only by one method; and that, as the test of her sincerity, she make certain sacrifices—restore Cracow to Europe, and to Hungary her constitution. If she refuse, we need not make war with her, but only renounce her friendship—decline to consult her as to the accomplishment of our object. Perhaps by refusal she would lose Galicia, which would but make our chain of fortress States the more complete, and restored Poland more like her ancient self.

We submit these suggestions to politicians—to men who disdain to act in state affairs on sentiment. We have endeavoured to show that the restoration of Poland is a political possibility—that it might have been done without deranging Europe; and may now be found the means of pacificating Europe. We may have next to show that Poland is also a military necessity. But, however that may be, we commend to the perusal of politicians the temperate, well-reasoned letter to Lord Aberdeen by a Polish Refugee;* and to the consciences of men whose politics include morality, these paragraphs of an address by the newly formed Anglo-Polish Committee:—

"WE ARE AT WAR. What for? The great heart of England answers, for justice and for freedom; to repel the encroachments of barbarism, and to assert the rights of Nationalities. But are we sure that these are the objects of our rulers? Have we such confidence in our Government, that we can safely leave the matter passively

* Peace or War: a Letter to the Right Hon. the Earl of Aberdeen, K.T., on the prospects of Europe.—Is the present war to be a mere butchery, or is it to lead to a permanent peace?—Marlborough & Co.

in their hands? Are there no tendencies visible of their too great concern for the dynasties, and too great indifference for the peoples, interested in this war? Englishmen, it depends on your decision whether the war shall be a grand effort by the nation in behalf of liberty, or, as John Bright believes, the wickedest thing this country has ever done. We call upon you to declare which it shall be.

"WE ARE AT WAR. The crisis has come. With the power we have thus allowed to aggrandize herself we now stand face to face in mortal conflict,—Russia occupying Poland, which should and would have been our barrier against her. We have made tremendous mistakes; now we are suffering for them. After crime comes suffering, but with suffering comes, to the noble, repentance and a better future; shall it not be so with us? Englishmen, let us demand of our Government the immediate recognition of Poland; first, because it is right; secondly, because there is our enemy's weakness, and consequently our strength; thirdly, because only by the restoration of Poland can the power of Russia be curbed, and a guarantee obtained for the permanent peace of Europe."

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENTS.

WHEREVER Christmas visitors to London may go, or fail to go,—juveniles home for the holidays, kinsfolk and friends re-uniting in old homes,—they should not fail to be at Sydenham while the Christmas trees are in bloom, and, if possible, when the military bands are playing. The latter enjoyment is to be had to-morrow and on Saturdays—the five-shilling fee being reduced to one-and-sixpence; and daily, in the central transept, may be found a very garden of the Hesperides—an orchard ripe with prettinesses and sweets.

Of strictly London sights, the most astonishing and amusing is certainly the luminous fountain at the Panopticon, Leicester-square. A jet of water climbs up from the centre of a Mosaic basin to the centre of an Alhambra roof, and, as it climbs, is met by streams of coloured light descending from the lantern in the dome. The fire and water, meeting and mingling in a spiral column some eighty feet high,—prismatic in colour, endless in contortions,—form one of the most gently exciting spectacles ever romancist or mechanist devised. Children go mad with perplexity and delight, and grave seniors cannot but confess by their applause that they are puzzled and pleased. There are other optical phenomena exhibited in the same place and on the same day, besides dioramic and cosmoramic views; music, from the grand organ and the Saxe horn company; mechanical models; hydraulic and chemical experiments; lectures, and a fine art exhibition.

Mr. Wyld's Great Globe continues faithfully to represent the successive geographical phases of its archetype. There may now be seen in one of the rooms on the floor, a large and admirably detailed model of Sebastopol, the siege lines, and the camp. A neighbouring room is fitted up as an Arctic cabin, and should be visited for a notion of seal skins and other winter garments.

Burford's Panorama (Leicester-square) of the War, Berlin, Constantinople, etc., re-opens on Saturday.

Of the Biblical Dioramas, King William-street, Strand, we have repeatedly spoken in terms of praise. They are announced shortly to close.

The Gallery of Illustration, at the Pall Mall end of Regent-street, has just reopened with a series of pictures of the war, which not only aid the imagination to realize the camp and battle-fields of the Crimea, but also, with diagrams of fortifications, and the lucid expositions of Mr. Stooqueler, help to an understanding of much that to the majority of civilians must be unintelligible, or like to be misunderstood.

Mont Blanc has returned to the Egyptian Hall—of course, in the keeping of Mr. Albert Smith, now undisputed master of the monarch of European mountains; the route very much improved and the guide more entertaining than ever.

At the Polytechnic, Miss Glynn concludes to-morrow her engagement with a reading of Macbeth. Her audiences will not easily find consolation for her absence; but for the crowd of holiday-makers, the enterprising manager provides a capital entertainment and useful information, in the shape of illustrations (pictorial and vocal) of American scenery and society, even from the days of the Mayflower.

The popular shilling for which any of the foregoing sights may be seen, will now also admit to the Turkish Exhibition at Hyde-park-corner. Those of our readers who remember our description of its contents at the opening, will not need that it should be repeated to induce their visits. It is our belief that Turkey may be seen in quite as good a light at the St. George's Gallery as on the Bosphorus—minus the plague of fleas and dogs.

In the Dublin case of a gift to a society of Jesuits from Miss Kirwan, the Lord Chancellor has decided that the gift was legal.

The return of admissions to the Crystal Palace for six days ending December 16, is as follows:—Numbers admitted, including season ticket holders, 8,663; amount received for admissions, £349 0s. 11d.

Omar Pasha was recently at the opera in Bucharest, accompanied by his daughter-in-law, who sat composedly in full view, like an Englishwoman, with her face exposed. This is said to be the first time ever such a thing occurred before, and the "tremendous innovation" made Ismail Pasha (not he of Kalafat) "turn deadly pale!" He was so much affected that he left his box, "and returned no more."

THE WAR.

THE SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE CAMP.

Letters from the camp before Sebastopol come down to December 3, and their tone is of a very discouraging nature. The weather had been very variable:—piercing cold, heavy rain, and summer weather succeeded each other. "The wretched beggar who wanders about the streets of London in the rain (says one writer) leads the life of a prince compared with the British soldiers who are fighting out here for their country, and who, we are complacently assured by the home authorities, are the best appointed army in Europe." There had been a continuance of gales of wind, which were excessively strong and violent. "Every night there is a storm for a few hours; every day there is a 'breeze of wind' and rain. Will it be credited that, with all our naval officers in Balaklava with nothing else to do—with our *embarras des richesses* of captains, commanders, and lieutenants—there is no more care taken for the vessels in Balaklava than if they were colliers in a gale off Newcastle?" The perfect disorder which reigns at Balaklava is put in contrast with the state of things in Kamiesch Bay, "where naval officers regulate all the arrangements of the ships coming into the harbour with supplies, and the vessels, great and small, are moored in regular lines according to the nature of their cargo and to the number of their register." Many of the heavy guns had been landed from the large men-of-war, but could not be carried up to the camp in consequence of the bad state of the roads or tracks. The new battery of 26 pieces of very heavy metal was to be worked by sailors. With the exception of a few steamers, every ship in the fleet had landed her marines, officers, and men, and they formed a fine and efficient corps of 2,000 strong, now somewhat weakened by sickness. They are under the command of Colonel Hurdle. On the 28th of November, one of the correspondents writes:—

The siege is practically suspended, and the utmost we do is to defend the trenches at night and to return shot for shot whenever the enemy fire. Of course, as the cessation of the fire of our batteries allows the besieged, or rather the partially invested force in possession of the town, to do as they please, the Russians very wisely go to work to increase their internal defences, and they are said to have constructed street batteries on a large scale; but I own that, except at two points, I am not able to discover them. We have plenty of ammunition, but our guns are shaken by the continual firing, and the vents are blown to such a size that a man could put his thumb into them, the aperture being at the same time irregular and jagged. The Russians during the day do not fire more than a gun every five minutes. Sometimes their fire is quicker. Sometimes they do not send a shot oftener than once in a quarter of an hour.

Here is an extract, dated November 29:—

A storm of wind and rain; the camp miserable to a degree, and Balaklava intolerable. The heavy mortars with which the Golden Fleece was laden have been landed, but there is no chance of moving them, or the new guns and ammunition on the wharf. The sailors' camp has been moved further towards the right and front, but the change is scarcely for the better, and the mud lies a foot deep all over the place—trying work for man and beast, particularly with short commons.

I suppose one must still head one's letters, "Siege of Sebastopol," but really and truly, there is no siege of the place whatever, and all this delay increases the difficulty which was caused by original neglect and indifference towards the formidable works which we permitted the Russians to throw up with impunity, and which have converted Sebastopol into one of the most formidable defensive positions the world ever saw.

Another writer says, "the fortress is actually getting stronger under our cannonade, and if that cannonade continues (as it is likely to do) for another two months, Sebastopol will be impregnable."

All the accounts concur in representing the troops as getting very impatient under the siege, and desirous, at any risk of making an assault on the fortress. It is stated that no assault will take place till forty new guns have been got into position by the French, and fifty new guns pulled up to our batteries by the British, and the process of cannonading repeated, and the process of bombarding commenced and tested.

In order that people at home may know what they have to expect when Sebastopol falls, should it be taken by assault, I may as well tell them that the Russians, availing themselves of our inactivity and silence, have fortified Sebastopol fourfold within the last ten days. They have scarped the ground in front of all their batteries; they have also constructed a strong *abatis* in front of all their lines—a most formidable obstacle to the progress of attacking columns. They have thrown up earthworks and mounted guns on every available point, and they have made sunken batteries before all their redoubts and before the Round Tower, as well as along the scarps of the slopes.

The tone of despondency is shared in by all the newspaper correspondents. Even the *Times* correspondent, under date Dec. 1st., says:—"The army is suffering greatly; worn out by night work, by vigil in rain and storm, by hard labour in the trenches, they find themselves suddenly reduced to short allowance, and the excellent and ample rations they had been in the habit of receiving cut off or miserably reduced. For nine days there has been, with very few exceptions, no issue of tea, coffee, or sugar, to the troops. These, however, are luxuries—not necessities of military life." There was much sickness in the camp. "The prevalent diseases are dysentery and diarrhoea, and in the Light Division, on which a large share of the labour falls, there were 350 men on the sick list a day or two ago. The men's clothes are threadbare and tattered." The old enemy of the expedition had also appeared—

The cholera, which broke out on the night of the 28th of November, continues its ravages, and we cannot estimate the number of deaths from it and its abettors in the destruction of life lower than sixty per diem. No less

than eighty-five men died the night before last in camp, according to the statements I have received and believe, and the number of sick men is very large. Among the victims to cholera and fever within the last few days, were Lieutenant Godfrey, senior Lieutenant of the Rifle Brigade, a young and popular officer; Lieutenant M'Lachlan, of the Royal Artillery, who was also a great favourite; and two men of the mounted staff corps recently arrived here. Of the Marine officers in the trenches only two are fit for duty. Of the naval lieutenants of the brigade of seamen, amounting to twenty, it is stated only five are able to work.

The Turks, it is said, were actually making a road at last!—one up to No. 5. battery. The mortality of the 46th Regiment was terrible; 200 men were in hospital. The horses were dying off for want of provender and nosebags. It fared still worse with the miserable oxen, cattle and camels.

The Russian army had quitted the valley for the heights commanding the Tchernaya. Deserters say that the Russians suffer much. Every evening the garrison opened a fire of artillery on the French position, and made sorties, which were always repulsed with loss. During the day the enemy's fire was slack. The soldiers were constructing huts.

Respecting the actual siege operations the following is the latest report:—"Little or no progress is making; our firing is slack, while the Russians are continually increasing and strengthening their works, and adding to the number of guns in action. We are still building mortar batteries on our extreme right, but in the present state of the roads it is difficult, if not impossible, to bring up the mortars. In short, the season is most unfavourable to the transport of the material for a fresh battering cannonade. Still, from all I can learn, that plan is likely to be adhered to. The French are slowly but surely advancing their works. On the evening of the 29th and on that of the 30th ult. the Russians made sorties against the advanced works of the French; and yesterday morning, at day-break, they made another sortie against the position on the right, lately taken and still held by our Rifles. The Russians were on each occasion repulsed, after a good deal of smart firing.

From the fleet, we learn that the three-deckers, after discharging their stores and some of their guns, were proceeding to the Bosphorus. The Admiral, in the *Furious*, was going with the *Rodney* and *Vengeance* to Karatsch Bay, where they were to be moored with a boom across the entrance. For the moment, therefore, the *Agamemnon*, *Algiers*, *Terrible*, *Tribune*, *Fury*, *Beagle*, *Lynx*, and *Highflyer* remained as blockading squadron. The latter, however, was reported as about to cruise off Odessa.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

The *Moniteur* publishes the following:—"Crimes, Dec. 7.—The batteries are re-established, and will be ready to open fire in three days. The allies are formidably entrenched, and now receive their provisions with so much ease and regularity that they can, if necessary, remain the whole winter in their present positions. Yesterday two Russian steamers made a sortie, under the fire of the forts, by the narrow outlet which they have retained. They exchanged a few shots with two French steamers that were at anchor in the Bay of Stréaika, but failed to hit either. Two English frigates and a French corvette drove them into port with their volleys. A great movement of the enemy between the town and the north of the bay was observable. Four French regiments and numerous reinforcements had arrived."

The *Sinai* has arrived at Marseilles from Constantinople, having left that city on the 6th. The last intelligence from the Crimea was to the effect that a new battery of thirty-six guns had been erected before Sebastopol. Great precautions were taken against the fireships the Russians were preparing against the allied fleets. Ninety-two rockets, intended to set fire to the Russian fleet, had been landed. The garrison of Eupatoria had been reinforced by two battalions. The Duke of Cambridge was to return to Balaklava. The *Portofoglio*, of Malta, pretends that 60,000 more Russians had passed by Perekop to reinforce the Russian army in the Crimea. The same journal also speaks of an engagement between a Russian corps and an English detachment, which pursued the Russians to the town and took possession of an important height.

Prince Menschikoff writes from the Crimea, under date of the 8th:—"Nothing new has taken place before Sebastopol. The enemy continue their fire but very feebly, and causing us scarcely any injury."

The *Independence Belge* publishes a despatch from Balaklava, through Varna and Vienna, stating that Lord Raglan has caused some siege pieces to be embarked on board the fleet, for the purpose of forcing the port of Odessa, and using it as a winter station for the fleet.

Advices from Constantinople state that on the 2nd 2,000 English soldiers passed eastward through the Bosphorus. Six vessels freighted with troops left Constantinople on the 3rd for the Crimea.

The *Moniteur* publishes a despatch from Admiral Hamelin, dated Sebastopol, December 9, announcing that General Montebello had arrived on the 8th, and that General Liprandi's corps had abandoned the heights near Balaklava, and retired to join the Russian army on the north of the Tchernaya.

The *Candia*, *Ripon*, *Thames*, and *Niagara*, with 5,000 French troops on board, arrived at Constantinople on the 8th, on their way to the Crimea.

Omer Pasha has embarked for the Crimea with the greater part of his army. Ismail Pasha commands the Turkish troops on the Danube provisionally.

Prince Napoleon has had a relapse, and cannot yet rejoin his division.

The *Morgen Post* of Vienna states, under date Odessa, the 14th, that the Russians are transporting their treasures and archives from the Pruth into the

interior. General Liprandi has been deprived of his command for a fault committed at Inkermann on the 5th of November. The roads in the Crimea are impassable.

AUSTRIA AND THE WESTERN POWERS.

The following is the text of the Treaty of Alliance between Her Majesty, the Emperor of Austria, and the Emperor of the French, signed at Vienna, December 2, 1854, and of which the ratifications were exchanged at Vienna on the 14th of December, 1854:—

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, and his Majesty the Emperor of the French, being animated with the desire of terminating the present war at the earliest possible moment, by the re-establishment of general peace on solid bases, affording to the whole of Europe every guarantee against the return of the complications which have so unhappily disturbed its repose; being convinced that nothing would be more conducive to that result than the complete union of their efforts until the common object which they have in view shall be entirely attained; and acknowledging, in consequence, the necessity of coming to an immediate understanding with regard to their respective positions, and to arrangements for the future; have resolved to conclude a Treaty of Alliance, and have for that purpose named as their Plenipotentiaries:—[Here follow the names and titles of the Plenipotentiaries, and the intimation that they have agreed to and signed the following articles.]

ARTICLE I.—The High Contracting Parties refer to the declarations contained in the Protocols of the 9th of April* and 23rd of May,† of the present year, and in the Notes exchanged on the 8th of August last;‡ and as they reserved to themselves the right of proposing, according to circumstances, such conditions as they might judge necessary for the general interests of Europe, they engage mutually and reciprocally not to enter into any arrangement with the Imperial Court of Russia without having first deliberated thereupon in common.

ARTICLE II.—His Majesty the Emperor of Austria having, in virtue of the treaty concluded on the 14th of June last with the Sublime Porte, caused the Principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia to be occupied by his troops, he engages to defend the frontier of the said Principalities against any return of the Russian forces; the Austrian troops shall for this purpose occupy the positions necessary for guaranteeing those Principalities against any attack. Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and his Majesty the Emperor of the French, having likewise concluded with the Sublime Porte on the 12th of March a treaty which authorises them to direct their forces upon every part of the Ottoman empire, the above-mentioned occupation shall not interfere with the free movement of the Anglo-French or Ottoman troops upon these same territories against the military forces or the territory of Russia. There shall be formed at Vienna between the Plenipotentiaries of Austria, France and Great Britain, a commission to which Turkey shall be invited to send a plenipotentiary, and which shall be charged with examining and regulating every question relating either to the exceptional and provisional state in which the said Principalities are now placed, or to the free passage of the different armies across their territory.

ARTICLE III.—In case hostilities should break out between Austria and Russia, her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, and his Majesty the Emperor of the French, mutually promise to each other their offensive and defensive alliance in the present war, and will for that purpose employ, according to the requirements of the war, military and naval forces, the number, description, and destination whereof shall, if occasion should arise, be determined by subsequent arrangements.

ARTICLE IV.—In the case contemplated by the preceding article, the High Contracting Parties reciprocally engage not to entertain any overture or proposition on the part of the Imperial Court of Russia, having for its object the cessation of hostilities, without having come to an understanding thereupon between themselves.

ARTICLE V.—In case the re-establishment of general peace, upon the bases indicated in Article I., should not be assured in the course of the present year, her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, and his Majesty the Emperor of the French, will deliberate without delay upon effectual means for obtaining the object of their alliance.

ARTICLE VI.—Great Britain, Austria, and France, will jointly communicate the present treaty to the Court of Prussia, and will with satisfaction receive its accession thereto, in case it should promise its co-operation for the accomplishment of the common object.

ARTICLE VII.—The present treaty shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Vienna in the space of a fortnight.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at Vienna, the second of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four.

WESTMORLAND. (L.S.)

BUOL-SCHAUENSTEIN. (L.S.)

BOURQUENEY. (L.S.)

NEWS FROM RUSSIA.

Advices from St. Petersburg of the 12th state:—It has been ordered that should negotiations not have led to peace by the end of the year, a new conscription shall take place throughout Russia of sixteen in every thousand. It is computed at St. Petersburg that this measure will produce an army of 1,000,000 soldiers.

The Emperor of Russia presided at a meeting of his council the other day, says a letter from St. Petersburg, at which certain questions of the highest interest to the empire were freely discussed; and at this council he made the following speech, which is printed in the *Constitutionnel*:—

Gentlemen.—The determinations which I have just asked you to take, prove my irrevocable design to resist

the aggression which has been created against me by England. Probably, by next spring, a part of my ancient lies may have abandoned me. It is therefore necessary that by the month of March we should find ourselves prepared for any circumstances; and I am glad to say that by that time, our effective force, without including any of the reserves, will be increased to 800,000 men. Nevertheless, I repeat, I do not wish for war *d tout prix*. Let a peace, favourable to Russia be offered, and I am ready to accept it.

This declaration, it is added, produced immense sensation among certain classes in St. Petersburg.

A letter from St. Petersburg of the 8th says:—The preparations now making in the imperial arsenals for putting the Baltic fleet in a condition not only to carry on a defensive war, but even to assume the offensive, are of such vast magnitude that they ought not to be overlooked in England. The most important of these measures is the immediate formation of no less than twenty-six reserve companies of sailors or ships' crews to replace those that may be swept off by British and French cannon-balls next summer. According to the Russian system, the Baltic fleet is divided into three divisions; the head-quarters of the first and second being at Cronstadt, and of the third at Sweaborg.

RETURN OF SIR CHARLES NAPIER.

On Sunday night, Her Majesty's steamer Duke of Wellington, with Sir Charles Napier on board, anchored at Spithead.

The admiral left the rest of his fleet off the Scaw on the 12th. The Edinburgh, 60, Rear-Admiral Chads, the Buryalus, 50, Captain Ramsay, and the Vulture, 8, Captain Glasbe, were left at Kiel. The Impérieuse, 50, Captain Watson, and the rest of the flying squadron, were coming home under the flag of Rear-Admiral Chads.

On Monday morning Sir Charles Napier disembarked at Portsmouth pier, and was vociferously cheered by a considerable crowd of people as he proceeded to the Port Admiral's. In company with Lady Napier, he took the afternoon train for London. The gallant admiral looked in good health and spirits. Merry peals were rung from the parish church bells in honour of his safe return.

THE CRIMEAN ARMY FUND.

The committee of the Crimean Army Fund have freighted a steamer to convey various articles of necessity and comfort to the troops in the Crimea. They comprise beer, wine, spirits, bacon, preserved meats, soups and vegetables, tobacco, arrowroot, soap, stationery, ironmongery, books, &c. Among the latter are 10,000 volumes collected and presented by Mr. Albert Smith. The Isabella II. (steamer) has filled up her 270 tons at Irongate-stairs, Tower, under the auspices of the Crimean Fund Committee, with small luxuries, necessities, and comforts for the troops before Sebastopol; in fact, nothing seems to have been forgotten, even to Christmas plum-puddings, already boiled, in cases, ready to be warmed. About 4,000 pairs of mittens, comforters, &c., have been collected by the exertions of Miss Bearcroft, residing in Warrington, as a donation to the army before Sebastopol, and have been sent out by the committee of the Crimean Fund, in Lord Ellesmere's yacht.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

Guyon, Haslan Pasha, and ten Polish staff officers, go from Erzerum to the Crimea.

The Himalaya steamer is being repaired at Malta, and is expected to be ready for sea by Christmas.

The Royal Albert, screw man-of-war, had arrived at Malta with troops, and her seaworthiness was much praised.

The Czar is attempting to induce workmen and armourers from Switzerland to join the Russian regiments.

Another order has been received at Lowmoor Iron Works from the Board of Ordnance, for 40,000 tons of balls and shells, chiefly of the largest size in use.

The officers wounded in the Crimea up to Nov. 20, were 207; killed, 101; died from disease and fatigue, 38: total, 346.

The Duke of Cambridge was at the last dates something better, and expecting shortly to resume active duty in the Crimea.

So rapidly are the three regiments of the Guards obtaining volunteers, that they are already in a position to send out another strong reinforcement.

Steamers are leaving Portsmouth, Southampton, Plymouth, and other ports with troops, guns, ammunition, houses, clothing, and provisions for the Crimea.

Prince Napoleon lately sent a present of a thousand cigars and six hundred bottles of claret to his wounded companions in arms at the French hospital at Constantinople.

A new cannon has been invented and patented, which is stated to have the power of discharging 300 balls continuously in an incredibly short space of time.

The *Monitor* of Friday says:—"Certain journals have for some time spoken of proposals of peace which they say have been made by Russia to France and England. The Courts of Paris and London have received no proposals of the kind from the Cabinet of St. Petersburg."

The Duke of Newcastle has written a congratulatory letter to Lady Evans, in which he terms her gallant husband's conduct, in going from a bed of sickness to a field of battle, at the same time waiving his right to the command, and laurels of the day, in favour of his junior, as an act of the truest heroism and finest chivalry.

On Wednesday last, a number of the navvies of Messrs. Peto and Co., left Wisbech on board the steam ship Great Northern, for the Crimea, where they are to be engaged in the construction of a railway between the camp and Balaklava. A large concourse of people assembled on the river bank to see her start.

On Saturday, about 150 navvies in the employ of Messrs. Peto and Co., left town by a special train for North Shields, whence they are to be conveyed to the Austrian territory. The men are to have five shillings per day, and their lodgings, food, and clothes found them. The total number to be sent out will exceed 2,000.

MR. BRIGHT, M.P., AND THE WAR.

A public meeting was held on Monday in the Manchester Town-hall, which had been called "to enable the citizens to declare that they do not concur in the opinions of Mr. Bright, but are fully convinced of the justice and necessity of the war, and earnestly hope that it will be carried on with the utmost vigour, until the objects for which it was commenced are thoroughly effected." The meeting had been called upon a requisition to the mayor, signed by upwards of 600 inhabitants of all political parties. Mr. Bright and his friends attended, and were received by a perfect storm of cheers, hisses, and groans. The hall was crowded to suffocation by upwards of 1,000 people, who clamoured loudly for the meeting to be adjourned to the open air.

Mr. W. R. Wood moved the first resolution:—

That this meeting, having learnt that the letter of John Bright, Esq. M.P., has been translated and circulated in Russia, decried publicly to declare that the citizens of Manchester do not concur in the opinions expressed by Mr. Bright, but, on the contrary, being convinced that the war is just and necessary, do earnestly desire that it may be carried on with the utmost vigour, until it shall be terminated by a secure and honourable peace. (Loud cheers and groans.)

Mr. Wood spoke at some length, but the greater part of his observations were entirely inaudible, owing to the clamour which was raised throughout the meeting. He said the meeting would not hear from him a word of attack upon the hon. member for Manchester or any person whatever.

Mr. ABRAHAM WATKIN seconded the resolution, but very few words could be distinguished, owing to the incessant cries of "Outside!" and the usual partisan interruptions. He said the requisition to the Mayor for the calling of this meeting had originated with some gentlemen who had hitherto always voted for Mr. Bright, and would vote for him again as member for Manchester, when they had the opportunity. He was bound to say that the gentlemen of the Conservative party with whom he had been brought in contact on this occasion had been most anxious that the resolution should assume no party form; but that a meeting should be called which should enable the people of Manchester to give expression to opinions which, it was believed, were identical with those of the great body of the people of England.

Mr. W. B. WATKINS, an alderman of the city, came forward to move an amendment, and was received with the same deafening noises as the other speakers. As regarded the conduct of the war, it was in the hands of the Government and of Parliament, and, as far as he could judge, it was supported by the majority of the country, and was a popular war; but surely there was no reason why those who thought differently might not express their opinions. He would move as an amendment:—

That whereas in the requisition presented to the Mayor requesting him to convene the present public meeting of the inhabitants of Manchester a letter written by Mr. Bright, our hon. representative in the Commons' House of Parliament, to one of his constituents, is alluded to as the cause of the requisition having been got up, it is the opinion of this meeting that Mr. Bright exercised an undoubted right in expressing his opinions on the subject of the war which unhappily exists between this country and Russia, and, although unhappily those opinions may differ from the views of many of his constituents, it would be unfair, tyrannical, and unjust to censure him even by implication for the honest and manly avowal of his sentiments upon a subject so important to all classes of this kingdom.

Mr. A. HENRY (late M.P. for the county) seconded the amendment. He said his opinions were not in accordance with those of Mr. Bright on the war, but every man had a right to the free avowal of his opinions; and certainly no one who had read the requisition could doubt that the object was rather to damage Mr. Bright as a politician than to express dissent from his views on the war. He confidently hoped that the amendment he now seconded would therefore be carried. (Continued cheers, uproar, and confusion.)

Mr. W. ENTWISLE, banker, supported the original resolution.

Mr. BRIGHT, M.P., then came forward to the front of the platform to address the meeting, and was received with a storm of cheering, hooting, groaning, and whistling, which lasted exactly thirteen minutes before the hon. gentleman attempted to utter a word. Then, finding that there was a party in the meeting sufficiently strong to prevent him obtaining anything like a full hearing, he addressed himself to the comparatively small number near him, who were endeavouring to listen, and was understood to speak as follows, after a few introductory words which could not be distinguished:—

I shall not occupy more than a very few minutes in saying that on this question of peace or war I claim for myself to have the right freely to express my views, and if I am unfortunate enough not to coincide with the views, of every portion of my constituents, I regret it extremely, but I shall not fear on this, as on all questions, to avow my opinions. I have on many occasions differed from a portion of my constituents, but I have never flinched from what I believed to be true and right with regard to public affairs, and I shall not flinch from it now. The object of my letter was to insist in bringing about such a temper of the public mind that the Government might find no obstacle, when an opportunity offered, for bringing about a restoration of public tranquillity. I do not regret having written that letter. I am able to prove everything that is in it, and I rejoice at the discussion which it has created, not in Manchester only, but throughout the kingdom, and in many parts also of the continent of Europe. Every man who clamours for war makes peace more difficult, and every expression of hostility may lessen the power of Government, on some future occasion, perhaps,

* Laid before Parliament in Part VIII. of Eastern Papers.

† Laid before Parliament in Part IX. of Eastern Papers.

‡ Laid before Parliament in Part XI. of Eastern Papers.

§ Already laid before Parliament.

to make peace. My object is to take away from England and from Europe this great calamity of war; and, whatever may be the result, I shall never shrink from keeping that course which I have taken up to this time. I shall not attempt further to address so tumultuous a meeting as this, but I have made my appearance here to show my firm conviction that the course I have taken is consistent with the true interests of this country. (The hon. gentleman resumed his seat amid loud clamour which had continued without the slightest intermission since he rose to speak.)

The uproar and confusion which had commenced with the first speaker at 11 o'clock, and continued without abatement for a single moment, was now such that the town-clerk had difficulty on behalf of the mayor in calling for a show of hands. The first show was at 1 o'clock, but his worship was not satisfied, and after taking another show requested the meeting to divide to either side of the room. This caused additional confusion in so crowded a room, and when the next show of hands had been taken it was so nearly equal that his worship was still undecided. Other shows were called for, and after a whole hour thus wasted the mayor declared upon his conscience he did not know whether the amendment or the original motion had the majority of votes. He believed the only course left was to record their names as they left the meeting, but that he was told was impracticable, and he had no other course but to dissolve the meeting. (Cheers and groans.)

The meeting then separated. In addition to the crowd in the Town-hall great numbers of people were waiting outside, who learned the result of the proceedings with some astonishment.

Mr. BRIGHT proceeded to a separate meeting of his own friends in Newall's-buildings. In the course of his speech on the occasion he said that no man in England could have less sympathy than he (Mr. Bright) had with the Russian system of government, and he was one of those who had received with the greatest delight the ex-governor of Hungary when he came to this country, and who was the most wonderful man, probably, that had visited these shores for a long time. He hoped that the people of Russia would be led to consider by the publication of his letter whether they might not, with great propriety, endeavour to make their own system of government approximate more nearly to the one which permitted the exercise of such freedom. Were we all to shut our mouths when our Government made a grievous mistake in foreign policy, which might lead to consequences that not only ourselves but our posterity would have to regret. He then commented upon the fact that out of the 613 names attached to the requisition for that meeting, not more than 43 of all the 18,000 electors of Manchester could be found who voted for him at the last election. The people of this country believed that they were engaged in this war with a noble object, but he believed the sequence would show that the war had no reference to the liberty of Europe or the advantage of this country; and we might form some estimate of its character from the character of those who were engaged in it as our allies. And it was no easy matter to humble a great empire as it was proposed to "humble Russia." But now we were reduced to the necessity of engaging 15,000 German mercenaries—men who had no more moral principle than to sell themselves to slaughter anybody in any part of the world, and he (Mr. Bright) should give his most decided vote against the measure which was now before the Legislature in reference to the hiring of foreign troops. In conclusion, Mr. Bright expressed his doubts of the continuance in power of a coalition Government which had shown that it had never coalesced and contained none of the elements of strength; but he was ready to support that or any succeeding Government which should avail itself of any honourable opportunity to restore tranquility to Europe. (Loud cheers.)

MARYLEBONE ELECTION.

On Monday the nomination of candidates for the vacancy in this borough, occasioned by the death of Lord Dudley Stuart, took place at the hustings in Park-crescent, Portland-place. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, there was a large muster of electors and non-electors, and the hustings, which were very commodious and judiciously covered with tarpauling to exclude the rain, were crowded with the friends and supporters of the candidates.

Mr. BRETTEINGHAM proposed, and Mr. DILLON seconded, the nomination of Mr. Bell; the like office was performed by Mr. COLLIER, M.P., and Professor KEY, for Lord Ebrington; and a letter was read from Mr. Hume expressing his general approval of the noble lord's political sentiments, and his intention to have acted on his committee had he been in town.

Mr. BELL then presented himself, and was received with mingled cheers and hisses. In the course of his statement of his political principles he said that he had maintained his general principles in favour of peace, but now the question was, what was to be done in the existing emergency in order to obtain a lasting and enduring peace? It was a war of liberty against tyranny, and it must be prosecuted with the most vigorous and energetic measures. He accused Lord Ebrington of having written a pamphlet advocating centralization, though he now talked of "local self government." He (Mr. Bell) would extend the suffrage to lodgers, and would repeal the ratepaying clause, which disfranchised nearly half the electors of the borough. (Cheers.) He was a warm advocate of education, and in proportion as the people became more intelligent and qualified to exercise the privilege he would extend the franchise. He would shorten the duration of Parliaments, and should be glad to meet the electors annually, if they desired it, to render an account of his stewardship, and receive their approval or censure according to his deserts. He had become

convinced that the ballot was necessary for the protection of voters against the coercion of landlords, customers, and employers. (Cheers.) He was a warm advocate of religious toleration, the removal of all disabilities from Dissenters, and the admission of Jews into Parliament. (Cheers.)

Lord EBRINGTON was received with mingled cheers and hisses. In the course of his speech he said, he honoured the Society of Friends, and had had the pleasure of co-operating with them in many works of public utility; but he regretted to find that most excellent society misrepresented in the person of his hon. opponent. He confessed that for a man of peace to advocate a vigorous prosecution of the war seemed to be almost a contradiction of terms; and when it was considered that two months ago Mr. Bell had protested against the war, he asked what confidence could be placed in his present professions? Were Liberals to be trusted who had never made any sacrifice for their opinions, but who had marked their previous career by voting for Tory candidates? (No, no.) He (Lord Ebrington) did not present himself before them as a political chameleon, professing one thing to-day, something else to-morrow, and the next day no one knew what. He was an advocate for the purity of election. He asked, was it likely that his venerable friend, Mr. Hume, would have supported him if he had been the nominee of the Conservatives, as some had alleged? Had Mr. Hume ever voted for a Tory in opposition to Lord D. Stuart? ("No, no.") He (Lord Ebrington) was not ashamed of his past career, for he had always maintained a consistent course. He had never advocated peace except it could be based upon safe and honourable conditions. He was a supporter of the war, now that we had entered upon it, and he was a supporter also of the policy of the war. (Cheers.) He believed that the liberties and independence of Europe would be seriously jeopardized if we allowed that faithless despot, the Emperor of Russia, to get within his iron grasp the Dardanelles. He was told that a lord could not sympathize with his people. He asked had there been any want of sympathy between noble lords in the Crimea and their brave comrades in the ranks?—any jealousy between those—rich and poor—who had marched together to glory, and too many of whom had been laid in a common grave? (Loud cheers.) He had had to mourn the loss of four relatives who had already fallen in the war. Some of his dearest and nearest relatives were still there; so far, therefore, as personal interest and feeling were concerned, he thought that he had more reason to desire the cessation of this sanguinary struggle than the hon. gentleman, who belonged to a society who had contributed no victims to the war. (Cheers.) So far from his having no sympathy with the working classes, all his life had been devoted to hard work—not to fair speeches—on their behalf. He was one of the body which had first constructed model lodging-houses for the labourer. He did not want to see indiscriminate alms and a profusion of parish relief, but he wanted to enable the poor to stand up as independent men. Health and strength were the poor man's capital, and they were much better than poor relief. His principle was, "A fair day's wages for a fair day's work"—not alms, but earnings—not charity, but justice. (Cheers.) He desired, also, to see their minds improved and their intellects cultivated, and he had endeavoured to promote among them, not merely secular education, but the diffusion also of the bread of life by faithful ministers of the gospel. (Cheers.) These formed some of the claims which he ventured to prefer before the constituency of Marylebone.

A show of hands was then taken, and the numbers upon either side appeared to be nearly equal. The Returning Officer stated that he scarcely knew in whose favour to declare the show of hands; and, if his decision were to be final, he should have great hesitation in giving it. As no doubt, however, a poll would be demanded, and he must decide one way or another, he thought that he might declare the show to be in favour of Mr. Bell. (Cheers.)

A poll was demanded on behalf of Lord Ebrington; and, a vote of thanks having been passed to Mr. Tamplin, the proceedings terminated.

The following letter was addressed to Mr. Bell and to Lord Ebrington on Saturday:—

SIR,—For our own guidance, and that of a numerous body of the electors of Marylebone, we are very desirous of ascertaining the views of the two candidates now before the borough, in respect to certain points which we consider to be of great practical importance.

We beg, therefore, to ask the favour of your early reply to the following inquiries:—

1st. Are you favourable to the abolition of sectarian distinctions in all educational institutions which are of a national character, and particularly of the tests which prevent Dissenters taking degrees at Cambridge, and a higher degree than that of B.A. at Oxford, and which exclude Dissenters from many of the public and ancient grammar-schools?

2nd. Are you in favour of the entire abolition of Church-rates?

3rd. Are you opposed to the continuance of the endowment to the Roman Catholic College of Maynooth, of the tax called "Ministers' Money," levied for the support of certain of the clergy of the Irish Church, and of the *Regium Donum* voted to Irish Presbyterians?

4th. Some of the Bishops having manifested an apparent intention of defeating the design of the Legislature in respect to new burial grounds, by refusing to consecrate in the absence of invidious distinctions between Churchmen and Dissenters, will you be prepared to support an amendment of the law to meet the case?

You will oblige by transmitting your reply to Mr. Joseph Brown, 10, Clarence-terrace, Regent's-park.

We are, Sir, your obedient servants,
JOSEPH BROWN, Regent's-park.
HENRY THOMPSON, St. John's-wood.
S. LOWELL PRICE, Camden-town.
A. COCKSHAW, Kentish-town.

Dec. 15, 1854.

Mr. Bell has replied as follows. No reply from Lord Ebrington has been received.

December 16, 1854.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of this day, containing certain inquiries to which I have the pleasure to reply *seriatim*.

1. This question I may answer decidedly in the affirmative.

2. I am in favour of the entire abolition of compulsory Church-rates. The Society of Friends, of which I am a member, defrays the expenses of the meeting-houses by voluntary subscription, which is, in my opinion, the most satisfactory and proper arrangement.

3. I should not like to pledge myself with regard to the Grant to Maynooth College, in the absence of more evidence than I already possess with regard to its practical utility and tendency. But I have an impression, that the grant is not appreciated by the parties to whom it is given, and that its object as a conciliatory measure is, therefore, in some degree frustrated. I may state, at the same time, that I am in favour of any measures for promoting and extending sound education without reference to creed or sect, and that I desire to cultivate a spirit of Christian charity and forbearance between the members of different religious bodies.

4. I am prepared to resist any attempt on the part of the Bishops to frustrate the intentions of the Legislature in regard to the new burial-grounds, and am opposed to invidious distinctions founded on sectarian differences.

As I am writing this letter in the midst of great pressure of business, I trust you will make allowance if I have not been sufficiently explicit on all points. I shall be happy to enter more into particulars, if I could be favoured with an interview.—I am, Gentlemen, yours very faithfully,

JACOB BELL.

To Joseph Brown Esq., and others.

THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT

An "anti-distillation movement" has commenced in Scotland. On Wednesday, in St. Ennoch's Hall (says the *Glasgow Commonwealth*), the abstainers, and on Friday, in the City Hall, the inhabitants of Glasgow, convened by the Lord Provost, expressed in unmistakable terms their protest against the destruction of human food in the manufacture of alcohol. The directors of the Scottish Temperance League, impelled by a sense of duty, have memorialised her Gracious Majesty the Queen, and petitioned the Lords and the Commons to put a stop to distillation and brewing from grain.

The friends of the United Kingdom Alliance held a meeting in the Corn Exchange, Manchester, on Thursday last. Resolutions were adopted calling especially upon parliamentary and municipal electors to vote for candidates hostile to the liquor traffic, pledging the meeting to aid the society both with money and effort, and adopting a petition to Parliament. It was announced that amongst recent new subscribers to the £10,000 fund, were Joseph Sturge, Esq., of Birmingham, £100, and Messrs. Robert Barbour and Robert Gardner, of this city, £50 each. A large number of subscription-papers were filled up during the evening by members of the audience, and the names and amounts were announced by the secretary. The proceedings were marked with considerable enthusiasm.

On Sunday week sermons, bearing on the proposed scheme for suppressing the liquor traffic, were preached in seven places of worship in Bradford under the auspices of the local branch of the United Kingdom Alliance. On the following evening a tea-party was held in the Temperance Hall. The chair was occupied by Mr. Alderman Harrison. The speakers, besides the chairman, were the Rev. W. Scott, Rev. J. Maughan, of Leeds, Mr. T. Swindlehurst, of Preston, and Mr. J. H. Raper, of Bolton. The addresses were generally devoted to the illustration of the folly, the madness, the wickedness, and the misery of drunkenness, the terrible evils endangered by the traffic in strong drink and the facilities for its sale, and the beneficial results which had flowed from a restriction of the traffic, as was found in the partial restriction on the Sabbath in this country, and the total suppression of the traffic in Maine and other States of America. It was stated by Mr. Raper, that Governor Seymour, who vetoed the Maine Law for the State of New York, had himself been just vetoed by the people of that State, who had elected Governor Clark his successor, because he was in favour of a Maine Law. Votes of thanks were presented to the chairman, to the ladies and friends who had presided, and to the several ministers for their sermons.

Court, Personal, and Official News.

On Tuesday evening, after the opening of Parliament, the Queen and Prince Albert returned to Windsor, and have remained there since. The visitors have included the Marquis of Breadalbane, Lord Palmerston, Major-General Barnard, Captain Seymour, R.N. The Marquis of Lansdowne was invited to Windsor Castle on Saturday, but was prevented by indisposition from obeying her Majesty's commands.

It is believed that Parliament will adjourn to-morrow, and meet again on the 16th of January.

During the holidays the Earl of Aberdeen, the Earl of Clarendon, and the Duke of Newcastle will remain in town. Lord John Russell proceeds to Woburn Abbey; the Marquis of Lansdowne to Bowdoin Park, Wilts; and Lord Palmerston to Romsey.

Major-General H. W. Barnard and Major-General Lord Rokeby have been appointed to commands in the Crimea.

Mr. Edwin James, Q.C., will be the Recorder of Brighton, under the charter of incorporation of that borough.

Lord John Russell has purchased Bare Homage, the seat of Sir John Littler, at Christchurch, in Hants.

On Tuesday morning the Right Hon. Lord Ruthven, one of the most distinguished judges on the

Scottish bench, died at Edinburgh in his 63d year, after an illness of some weeks, which had precluded him from taking his seat in the court from the opening winter session. From an early period Mr. Rutherford associated himself with the Whig party; in 1837 he was chosen Solicitor-General for Scotland under the Melbourne Administration, and in 1839 he was appointed Lord-Advocate. On the accession of Sir R. Peel to power in 1841 he necessarily vacated that post, but, on the return of the Whigs to office in 1846, he was reinstated in it, and filled it until 1851, when he was elevated to the bench, under the title of Lord Rutherford. From 1839 to 1851 he represented the Leith burghs in Parliament, and to his services there Scotland owes several most valuable measures—the Entail Reform Act in particular. The late judge was a member of Her Majesty's Privy Council.

The funeral of the late Lord Dudley Stuart took place at Hertford on Friday. In addition to Captain Stuart, the only son of Lord Dudley, the Earl and Countess of Harrowby, Lord James Stuart, Captain and Mrs. Townshend, and the younger branches of these families, there were present Sir B. Hall, the colleague of Lord Dudley Stuart in the representation of Marylebone; Dr. J. A. Smith, M.P., some other very intimate friends of the deceased and deputations of Polish refugees. The windows were closed in the streets of Hertford, and the children of Christ's Hospital lined a portion of the road through which the long procession passed. The coffin of polished oak in which the remains were brought from Stockholm, were deposited in the chancel amid manifestations of regret—neither equivocal nor confined to a few.

The Hon. and Rev. T. Pelham, Honorary Canon of Norwich, Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen, and Incumbent of Christ Church, Hampstead, has been appointed to succeed the Rev. Dr. Spry in the valuable rectory of St. Marylebone.

The Overland Indian Mail brings intelligence of the death of Lord William Fitzclarence, G.O.H., Commander-in-Chief at Bombay, and Colonel of the 36th Regiment. His lordship was second son of King William IV. and Mrs. Jordan; was born in 1799, and in 1821 married Lady Augusta Boyle, daughter of the Earl of Glasgow. Lord Frederick entered the army in 1814, and at his death held the rank of Lieutenant-General.

Lord Goderich is detained from his parliamentary duties by the illness of Lady Goderich, in the south of France.

A meeting of the Royal Commissioners of the Patriotic Fund was held at the Palace at Westminster on Friday, at eleven o'clock, and sat till two. Prince Albert presided; and amongst those present were the Earl of Derby, the Duke of Newcastle, Lord Palmerston, Lord St. Leonards, Sir John Lubbock, and several Cabinet ministers.

Law and Police.

The great ducal will case is settled by compromise, which was formally ratified in the Equity Court on Thursday. The Solicitor-General, Mr. Selwyn with him, appeared for the plaintiff, and stated the terms of the compromise, which were in effect that the will of the duchess was to stand, and the duke was to carry into effect what it was admitted were the duchess's wishes with regard to the property. The duke and Lord Mandeville were to make up the portion of Lady Ossulton to £20,000. The bill was to be amended by withdrawing all the offensive paragraphs reflecting upon the conduct of the duke, and all parties to pay their own costs.

The Lord Chief Baron said on Wednesday, in an action for slander, he was clearly of opinion that the calling a man a liar and a swindler was not actionable, but that the addition of the charge, "You are a returned convict," was actionable.

Mr. R. A. Bethell, aged 24, son of the Solicitor-General, has just appeared in the Insolvent Court, Dublin, to clear himself of debts amounting to £12,000, principally incurred by losses in gaming-houses and in betting on the turf. His father had paid all his tradesmen's bills, and had offered £3,000 as a compromise among the gambling creditors; but some of the latter refused to accept the offer.

An important arbitration case has just been decided in favour of a leading Assurance Company. For some years a person had been assuring his life, and immediately disposing of the policies for a trifle above the premium paid. His disease took place about twelve months back, and it was then found that nearly £18,000 had been assured by policies obtained by doubtful representations from thirteen officers, who, upon discovery of the circumstances, at once combined to resist the claims made. The award now arrived at has been given by the arbitrators (two of whom are members of the bar), after a sitting of more than thirty days, and the examination of nearly fifty witnesses.

On Thursday, a Coroner's jury pronounced a verdict of "Wilful Murder" against Emanuel Barthélemy the perpetrator of the double murder in the case of Mr. Moore. The prisoner was also produced at the Police Office. It seems the police are on the track of the woman who escaped; one of them knows the "party;" and has a clue to her apprehension. The life of the widow of Collard, the second victim, is now despaired of.

In the Court of Queen's Bench, on Monday, an action was tried before Lord Campbell and a special jury, brought by Mr. Alderman Challis, M.P. for Finsbury, against the Great Northern Railway Company, to recover compensation for injuries he received arising out of the accident which took place near Hornsey, on this line, on the 1st of August, 1863. Alderman Challis was severely cut about the head, and received various other injuries from which he suffered

great pain, and was prevented for some time attending to his duties as Lord Mayor. The defendants had paid £30 into Court, which had been refused, and the present trial took place. The Attorney-General and Mr. Hawkins appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. W. H. Watson and Mr. Wordsworth for the Company. The Jury, under the direction of Lord Campbell, returned a verdict for the plaintiff, with £170 damages, in addition to the £30 paid into Court.

Miscellaneous News.

Mr. Peat, late master of the ship *Golden Era*, recently from Melbourne, has been committed for trial by a Liverpool Magistrate on a charge of having imperilled the ship and the lives of the people on board by his continual habit of drunkenness. The Board of Trade prosecutes.

A new feature has been added to the Crystal Palace in the shape of a news-room, the price of admission to which is a penny each visit, or 10s. a year. The papers and reviews are filed,—writing materials are at hand,—a post-box is provided,—and the telegraphic despatches are exhibited on the boards. It is a good local feature,—and adds one more to the many attractions of the building.

On Wednesday morning a passenger train from Liverpool for Manchester came into collision at Pemberton with a coal train which was coming off a siding. The engine of the passenger train was thrown upon its side, and the two first carriages shattered to pieces. Fortunately they had no occupants. No passengers were injured, but the stoker of the passenger train was killed, and the engineer (Ashcroft) very much hurt. The accident is attributed to some delay or neglect in signalling.

A joint-stock company is forming in Manchester and Salford for the purpose of establishing public baths and laundries in those towns. It is proposed to erect five of them, at a cost of £6,000 each—four in Manchester, and one in Salford—in the course of the next five years, and one or two are to be set on foot as soon as possible, in order to test the amount of support they are likely to receive. At a public meeting held on Thursday in the Manchester Town-hall, when there was a numerous and influential attendance, the Mayor presiding, the names of a provisional committee were announced, and it was stated that between 3,000 and 4,000 shares (£5 each) were already applied for.

Lord Stanley writes to the Association for Promoting the Repeal of Taxes upon Knowledge:—"I apprehend that the impossibility of defining 'news,' and consequently the impossibility of maintaining the existing law, except by gross partiality and favouritism, is making itself every day more and more felt. The war, however it may impede other financial reforms, will promote that which you support, by increasing the demand for cheap journals. The expediency of parting with, or altering, the paper duty, is a subject on which I shall not now touch; but the stamp duty, at least, stands condemned by a resolution of the House of Commons, no less than by the general good sense of the public."

The Sunday strike in Edinburgh continues. The magistrates have suggested that the drivers should attend every alternate Sunday; but to this the drivers have refused to agree, on the ground that it would be an abandonment of the principle for which they contended. The magistrates then resolved to grant drivers' licenses to any number of men of good character, whose competency should be certified by the inspector of cabs; thus leaving the question of Sunday driving to be settled by the masters and the men so licensed. About ten or twelve men have been dismissed by their employers for refusing to come out on Sunday, and, at a meeting of the Defence Association, it was agreed to make a weekly contribution for those who should suffer in joining the strike.

On Thursday morning Mr. Benjamin Foster, the President, and several other members of the metropolitan and Provincial Licensed Victuallers' Mutual Defence Association, had a lengthened interview with Sir Benjamin Hall, Bart., M.P. for Marylebone, at his residence in Great Stanhope-street, relative to the efforts which are about being made to obtain the repeal of Mr. Wilson Patten's Bill passed last session for closing public-houses during certain hours of Sundays. Deputations have also waited upon Sir James Duke, Bart., M.P. for the City of London, at his residence in Portland-place; upon Sir John Shelley, M.P. for Westminster, at his residence in Park-lane; and upon Mr. Apsley Pellat, M.P. for Southwark, at his residence, Holland-street, Blackfriars.

Gleanings.

The Russians have dubbed the Highlanders "Lady Soldiers," from their dress.

Napoleon used to say, "He who has not made many blunders in war has not made war long."

Magnetic Iron is stated to have been discovered in large quantities along the coasts of Lake Superior.

Manchester and Liverpool have each now a daily paper.

It is stated that Lord Cockburn has left several manuscripts behind him, including "Notes of the Circuit."

M. Guizot is now engaged in preparing a new and important work on his favourite subject, the English Revolution.

The man who was a "picture of despair" has been set in a "serious frame of mind," and hung in the back parlour.

Mr. Harrison Ainsworth, already the conductor of his own magazine, and the *New Monthly*, has taken *Bentley's Miscellany* under his direction.

A Leicester critic, reviewing a young lady's poems, says, "it will afford him much pleasure to meet her, at any future period, when her leisure may permit."

Mr. George Thompson, late M.P. for the Tower Hamlets, is now editor and principal proprietor of the *Empire* newspaper. The paper has been raised in price from 4d. to 5d.

At the last meeting of the Bedfordshire antiquaries, a paper was read which concluded with a vindication of churchwardens' dinners, as one of the glorious institutions of the great Alfred!

The *Court Journal* tells a story about General Canrobert being engaged to marry the daughter of one of our Generals who was killed at the battle of Inkermann.

The *Gateshead Observer* notes that Cochon China fowls have experienced the worthlessness of fashion. The plain useful Dorking has been taken back to the affections of the million, and the imperial bird is now "going" at less shillings than he once found pounds.

A facetious boy asked one of his playmates, "Why an ironmonger was like a bootmaker?" The latter, somewhat puzzled, gave it up. "Why," said the other, "because the one soled the nails, and the other nailed the soles!"

On Monday morning last, the wife of a labouring man, named Booth, living at Howden Clough, near Birstal, West Riding, gave birth to four children, three boys and a girl. They were all alive at the time of birth, but died shortly afterwards.

After negotiations extending over seven years, the directors of the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway have purchased the late Dr. Wardlaw's chapel, Great George-street, Glasgow, for the sum of £14,100. The building may be retained by its present occupants till Whit-Sunday, 1855.

An auctioneer at Darlington is advertising "stays that might enfold a nymph, a naiad, or a grace;" prints that might inspire a man of Manchester "to the apex of Parnassian fervour;" woollen drawers and shirts,

In which doth dwell
A fleecy spell
To charm away the rheumatism,

and regatta shirts, "fanciful as the emblematical banner of Yankee-land."

Lord Palmerston's visit to Paris has, of course, given rise to not a little gossip. Here is one of the stories told about his lordship:—It appears that in one of his drives from St. Cloud, the fortifications became the subject of conversation. "There surely can be no fear of Cossacks with these stout bastions," said his lordship. "Why," replied the Emperor, hesitatingly, "they are scarcely strong enough for great resistance: they would only do for a ——" "I see, for a strait-waistcoat!" returned Lord Palmerston quickly, nodding towards Paris as he spoke with that peculiar *sourire marguerite* for which he is so celebrated amongst his Continental coadjutors. The long silence which ensued showed plainly enough that his lordship had not missed his mark.

N. P. Willis met the Earl of Aberdeen some years ago at the Duke of Grafton's, and has furnished the following sketch of our present Prime Minister. "When Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in the Wellington Cabinet, he had known Mr. Lane intimately. He said he seldom had been so impressed with a man's honesty and straightforwardness, and never did public business with any one with more pleasure. Lord Aberdeen has the name of being the proudest and coldest aristocrat of England. It is amusing to see the person who bears such a character. He is of the middle height, rather clumsily made, with an address more of sober dignity than of pride and reserve. With a black coat much worn, and always too large for him, a pair of coarse check trousers, very ill made, a waistcoat buttoned up to the throat, and a cravat of the most primitive *neglige*, his aristocracy is certainly not in his dress. His manners are of absolute simplicity, amounting almost to want of style. He crosses his hands behind him, and balances on his heels. In conversation his voice is low and cold, and he seldom smiles: yet there is a certain benignity in his countenance, and an indefinable superiority and high breeding in his simple address that would betray his rank, after a few minutes' conversation, to any shrewd observer. It is only in his manner towards the ladies of the party that he would be immediately distinguished from men of lower rank in society.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

- Jerusalem Revisited. Hall and Co.
- A Boy's Adventures in Australia. Ibid.
- Lectures on the Apocalypse. Partridge and Oakley.
- Outlines of Theology. Vol. I. Ward and Co.
- The Rise and Progress of Christianity. J. Chapman.
- Faggots for the Fireside. Grant and Griffith.
- Words by the Wayside. Ibid.
- Playing at Settlers. Ibid.
- The Discontented Children. Ibid.
- A History for Boys. D. Bogue.
- The Forest Exiles. Ibid.
- Wearyfoot Common. Ibid.
- Detached Thoughts. Blackader and Co.
- Poems by Matthew Arnold. Longman and Co.
- Dream of Pythagoras. Ibid.
- Logic for the Young. Ibid.
- The Redeemer's Final Triumph. J. Snow.
- Notes on Scripture Lessons, 1854. Sunday School Union.
- Discoveries in Chinese. Trubner and Co.
- L'Evangile. Ibid.
- Annotated Paragraph Bible. Part IV. Religious Tract Society.
- The True Scriptural Sabbath Religion. Houlston and Stoneman.
- A Letter on the Army of India. No. I. J. Madden.
- A Glance at the Heavens. S. Highley and Son.
- Inquiry Respecting the Church of Christ. J. Taylor, Edinburgh.
- The Anti-Sabbatarian Defenceless. D. Robertson, Glasgow.
- Remarkable Sieges. Ingram and Co.

BIRTHS.

December 12th, at Earham-hall, Mrs. JOHN GURNEY, of a son.
December 13th, Mrs. ANNA JENNINGS, of a daughter.
December 16th, at Streatham-common, the wife of Alderman and Sheriff MUGGERIDGE, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

December 9th, at St. John's, Exeter, by the Rev. Fisher Turner, Mr. W. ROBERT PHELPS law student, son of S. PHELPS, Esq., of London, tragedian, to JESSY, second daughter of Mr. Latimer, magistrate, of Exeter.

December 12th, at the Independent Chapel, Hershaw, by the Rev. A. E. Lord, Mr. THOMAS CLARKE, of Brentford, to HARRIETT, eldest daughter of RICHARD YOUNG, of Chertsey.

December 12th, at St. Peter's Church, Eaton Square, by the Hon. and Rev. F. Bertie, HENRY JOHN WENTWORTH, only son of J. H. H. FOLEY, Esq., M.P., of Prestwood, Worcestershire, to the Hon. JANE FRANCES ANNE, second daughter of the late Lord VIVIAN.

December 12th, at London-road Chapel, Chelmsford, by the Rev. J. Hicks, Mr. WILLIAM BREWSTER, of Boreham, to Miss CHARLOTTE GALLEY, of Great Leighs.

December 13th, at the General Baptist Chapel, Quorndon, Leicestershire, Mr. HENRY JELLEY MILLER, of King's Cliffe, Northamptonshire, to EMMA, youngest daughter of the late Mr. JOSEPH BALM, of the former place.

December 14th, at St. Mary's, Newington, by the Rev. W. C. Moore, Mr. JOHN BARTLETT, junr. of Hove, Sussex, to MARY ANN, only daughter of B. GALLAWAY, Esq., of South-place, Kennington-park, Surrey.

December 14th, at Christchurch, Hampstead, by the Rev. George Arthur Firth, brother of the bride, EDWARD THOMPSON, Esq., of Park-street, Islington, to CHARLOTTE, second daughter of RICHARD ANSON FIRTH, Esq., of the Square, Hampstead.

December 14th, at Castle-street, Chapel, Bridgenorth, by the Rev. T. Jones, Mr. EDWARD SMITH EARL, of Blackheath, to MATILDA SARAH, daughter of W. PELOE, Tain, Ross-shire.

December 14th, at St. George's, Hanover-square, by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Litchfield, HAMILTON BECKETT, Esq., to the Hon. SOPHIA CLARENCE COPELY, second daughter of Lord LINDHURST.

December 14th, at York-street Chapel, Walworth, by the Rev. James Sherman, of Blackheath, Mr. JAMES RUSSELL, junr., Aldersgate-street, City, to MARY LOUISA, eldest daughter of Mr. R. B. NEWSON, Grosvenor-park, Camberwell.

December 17th, at Fennybridges Chapel, by Rev. W. Evans Foote, Mr. W. CRAWLEY to Miss ANN STONE.

December 19th, at Slough, Bucks, by the Rev. S. Lillycrop, Mr. JOSEPH GEORGE WYLL, of Reading, to SARAH, fifth daughter of JACOB HAYNES, Esq., of Slough and Brentford.

DEATHS.

Lately, of fatigue, at Constantinople, Lieutenant ARTHUR HENRY THISTLETHWAITE, of the Scots Fusilier Guards, youngest son of the late THOMAS THISTLETHWAITE, Esq., of Southwick-park, Hants.

November 14th, shipwrecked at Balaklava, beloved and respected by all who knew him, RICHARD ONSLOW LEWIS, Captain of the Resolute, son of the late Lieutenant ROBERT LEWIS, R.N., of Brighton.

November 14th, lost at Balaklava, SNOLTO G. DOUGLAS, Midshipman of the Prince, aged 16 years and 10 months, eldest son of W. H. DOUGLAS, Esq., barrister-at-law.

November 21st, in the camp of the Light Division before Sebastopol, of dysentery, and intermittent fever, brought on by unavoidable exposure on duty, in the 23rd year of his age, Lieutenant ARTHUR FRANCIS MAINE, of the 77th Regiment, second son of the Rev. J. T. MAINE, of Bighton Wood, Hampshire.

November 23rd, at Constantinople, where he had been conveyed from Balaklava, Captain SAMUEL TOOSEY WILLIAMS, of Her Majesty's Scots Greys, in the 32nd year of his age (half of which he had passed in Her Majesty's service), eldest son of B. B. WILLIAMS, Esq., of Buscot-park, Farringdon, Berks, and Westbourne-terrace, Hyde-park-gardens.

December 7th, at Stockport, JULIA DAVENPORT, wife of Mr. JOHN RISQUE, grocer.

December 7th, after a short illness, at Blackburn, aged 33 years, SARAH, second daughter of W. MOORE, Esq.

December 9th, in his 78th year, THOMAS BREWIN, of Halesowen-hill, near Birmingham, a member of the Society of Friends.

December 9th, at Bradford, Yorkshire, the Rev. JONATHAN GLYDE, pastor of Horton-lane Chapel.

December 11th, at her residence, Bruce-grove, Tottenham, Mrs. ANNE HOWARD, in the 75th year of her age.

December 12th, at West-street, Rochdale, Mrs. JOHN LORIMER.

December 12th, at Stagbury, Surrey, the Lady MARGARET WALPOLE, widow of the late THOMAS WALPOLE, Esq., in the 86th year of her age.

December 12th, at his residence, the Bury, Englefield-green, WILLIAM NEWHAM, Esq., late Member of Council, Bombay aged 68.

December 12th, in the 20th year of his age, Mr. OSWALD GROOM, of Little Baddon, Essex, grandson of the late Rev. STEPHEN MORELL.

December 13th, at Wantage, in the 60th year of his age, the Rev. C. E. BIRT, Baptist minister of that place.

December 13th, at Wimbledon-house, Surrey, in her 82nd year, CHARLOTTE, widow of the late JOSEPH MARRYATT, Esq. M.P.

December 13th, at Clifton, after a long and painful illness, FANNY, second daughter of MATTHEW MARSHALL, Esq., of the Bank of England, in the 26th year of her age.

December 13th, at his residence, Gothic Hall, Stamford-hill, after a very short and severe illness, THOMAS WINDUS, Esq. F.S.A., in his 76th year.

December 15th, at Hackney, in her 80th year, ANN, relict of the late WILLIAM SEARLE, Esq., solicitor, of London.

December 19th, WILLIAM TWELVEVEETES, of the firm of TWELVEVEETES & SON, builders and contractors, Biggleswade, in the 62nd year of his age.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

The Stock market has been somewhat inactive during the past week. On Monday there was a decline of a quarter per cent.; the market being depressed by the apprehension of a ministerial crisis in connexion with the Foreign Enlistment Bill. To day the market opened firmly and was steadily supported. Consols were maintained at the opening quotations, although a reduction of $\frac{1}{8}$ took place for a short time. Consols are at $91\frac{1}{2}$ to $91\frac{3}{4}$ ex div. for the January account. Reduced 3 per Cents. have declined to $91\frac{1}{2}$; and the New 3 per Cents. are down to $91\frac{1}{2}$. Exchequer Bills, 4s. 7s. premium. Foreign Securities remain dull and inactive. Peruvian $4\frac{1}{2}$ per Cents. are now at $70\frac{1}{2}$. Spanish 3 per Cents. Deferred, 19. Dutch $2\frac{1}{2}$ per Cents., $61\frac{1}{2}$. Ditto 4 per Cent. Certificates, $91\frac{1}{2}$ to $91\frac{3}{4}$. Turkish Serip has been much better supported, and the quotation has recovered to $6\frac{1}{2}$ to $5\frac{1}{2}$ dis. for Account.

The specie arrivals of the last week amounted to about £500,000, of which the whole is gold, with the exception of £73,000.

Railway Shares have shown more buoyancy to-day, most of the leading stocks are at a slight advance.

Aberdeens are 5s. lower. Caledonias have advanced 7s. 6d. Eastern Counties continue firm at $11\frac{1}{2}$. Great Northern have advanced 15s.; ditto, A stock 30s. higher; ditto, B stock, $\frac{1}{2}$ better. Great Westerns continue at $70\frac{1}{2}$. Lancashire and Yorkshire have advanced 5s. London and Brightons are 15s. higher. London and North Westerns remain steady at $100\frac{1}{2}$. London and South Westerns show a rise of $\frac{1}{2}$. Midlands, $\frac{1}{2}$ firmer. North British 10s. better. North Easterns (Berwicks), are flat at 74; ditto Leeds, $\frac{1}{2}$ weaker; ditto Yorks, 10s. lower. French shares are firm. Great Luxembourgs continue at $3\frac{1}{2}$. Paris and Lyons, 33 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Banking Shares have been quiet, with little variation in price. Chartered of India, Australia, &c., $1\frac{1}{2}$; London Chartered of Australia, 22. Union of Australia has advanced $\frac{1}{2}$. Peninsular and Oriental Steam are 30s. higher. South Australian Land have improved $\frac{1}{2}$.

In consequence of the occurrence of Christmas-day, bills due on Monday next must all be paid on Saturday, and advised for that day by country correspondents.

The reports of the state of trade in the manufacturing towns during the past week present no material change from the satisfactory accounts of the preceding week, a tendency towards diminished activity being a consequence merely of the period of the year. At Manchester there has been a moderate business, and prices have been well maintained, notwithstanding the decline in cotton at Liverpool. The Birmingham advices describe great uncertainty as to the future course of the iron-market; but, although a reduction has been very generally adopted, the lowness of stocks will prevent it from being continuous, and some of the leading firms still entertain sufficient confidence to refuse to make any concession. In the manufacture of all military articles there is great activity, and fresh orders have been received. At Nottingham the markets both for lace and hosiery are quiet, but firm, and in the woollen districts the demand is not unfavourable, such falling off as has taken place being prevented from affecting quotations by the cautiousness of the manufacturers with regard to their rate of production.

The departures from the port of London for the Australian colonies during the week have comprised 15 vessels—6 to Sydney, with an aggregate burden of 4,491 tons; 3 to Port Phillip, with an aggregate burden of 3,392 tons; 3 to Adelaide, with an aggregate burden of 1,639 tons; 1 to New Zealand, of 617 tons; 1 to Hobart Town, of 494 tons; and 1 to Launceston, of 419 tons. Their total capacity was consequently 11,052 tons. The rates of freight continue to exhibit general heaviness.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—The full value of an admirable remedy—COD LIVER OIL—not only in Consumption, but in many other painful disorders, has hitherto not been so justly appreciated in England, as by our Continental neighbours,—practical experience having taught them its extraordinary efficacy in cases of Rheumatism, Gout, Bronchitis, Asthma, Rickets, Scrofula, and Cutaneous Diseases, and its superiority over every other medicine for the removal of General Debility in children and adults, and for the restoration of strength to the convalescent. Probably this error has arisen from the difficulty of obtaining Cod Liver Oil in a pure and genuine state—few articles being more ingeniously and extensively adulterated or tampered with. This obstacle is now fortunately removed by the introduction into this country of the celebrated Light Brown Cod Liver Oil of Dr. de Jongh, whose indefatigable researches, during a period of fifteen years, have enabled him to detect the causes of the too frequent failures of this remedy, to discover its essential properties, and to supply an article ensuring the confidence of medical practitioners and their suffering patients. Sold in Imperial Half Pint, Pint, and Quart Bottles with full directions for use, by Ansar, Harford, and Co., 77, Strand, London, Dr. de Jongh's accredited Agents and Consignees, and may be obtained from all respectable Chemists and Druggists in the Kingdom.

The Gazette.

Friday, December 15th, 1854.

BANKRUPTS.

Lefavour, D. New Oxford-street, merchant, December 31, January 23; solicitors, Messrs. Ashursts, Waller, and Morris, Old Jewry.

Boyc, W., sen., Dover, innkeeper, December 26, January 22; solicitors, Messrs. Blackman and Guy, Raymond-buildings, Gray's Inn; and Mr. Monckton, Maidstone.

Lewis, D., and Wise, B., Ann's-place, Westmoreland-road, Walworth, tanners, December 26, January 23; solicitors, Messrs. Freeman and Bothamley, Coleman-street.

Warner, R., West-street, Commercial-road, Pimlico, wheelwright, December 26, January 30; solicitor, Mr. Sidney, Lincoln's Inn-fields.

Futvoys, F., Regent-street, and Beak-street, Westminster, Jeweller, December 26, January 30; solicitors, Messrs. Hornby and Towgood, St. Swithin's-lane.

Adamson, G., late of West-street, Victoria-park, Bethnal-green, carpenter, December 26, January 30; solicitor, Mr. Jones, Quality-court, Chancery-lane.

Pigg, J., Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire, grocer, December 22, January 24; solicitors, Messrs. Kingsford and Dorman, Essex-street, Strand; and Mr. Adeock, Cambridge.

Elkington, C. J. C., Hall-street, City-road, electro-plate manufacturer, December 23, January 23; solicitors, Messrs. Russell and Burdon, Martin's-lane, Cannon-street.

Keen, Walter, Hungerford, Berkshire, haydealer, December 22, January 23; solicitors, Messrs. Loveland and Tweed, Lincoln's Inn-fields.

Waistell, G. R., Noble-street, Wood-street, commission-agent, December 22, January 24; solicitors, Messrs. Sole, Turner, and Turner, Aldermanbury.

Manning, S., Cornwall-road, Hammersmith, builder, December 22, January 21; solicitor, Mr. Reynolds, Chancery-lane.

Clumance, G., St. Albans, Hertfordshire, baker, December 22, January 24; solicitors, Messrs. Croxley and Burn, Lombard-street, and Mr. Simpson, St. Albans.

Brown, W., Great Russell-street, Covent-garden, linendraper, December 21, January 23; solicitor, Mr. Jones, Sise-lane.

Tregenza, J., Oxford-street, bootmaker, December 21, January 25; solicitors, Messrs. Loveland and Tweed, Lincoln's Inn-fields.

Tyler, H., Victoria-street, Westminster, victualler, December 21, January 23; solicitors, Messrs. Parnell and Willaume, New Broad-street.

Baylis, J., late of Tottenham, crapedresser, December 23, February 3; solicitor, Mr. Weeks, Walbrook-buildings.

Coker, F., Hackney-road, stationer, December 22, February 3; solicitor, Mr. Phillips, Coleman-street.

Handley, E., King William-street, Strand, licensed victualler, December 21, February 2; solicitor, Mr. Philip, Bucklersbury.

Wilkinson, A., Ellesmere, Shropshire, innkeeper, January 6 and 26; solicitors, Mr. Wace, Shrewsbury, and Messrs. Motteram and Knight, Birmingham.

Hutchings, T. and W., Taunton, Somersetshire, curriers, December 21, January 18; solicitors, Mr. Channing, Taunton, and Mr. Stogden, Exeter.

Richardson, J., Chesterfield, draper, December 30, January 27; solicitors, Messrs. Woods and Jackson, Rochdale, and Messrs. Barr and Nelson, Leeds.

Wilson, A., Manchester, timber merchant, January 9 and 29; solicitors, Messrs. Bunting, Bingham, and Marsland, Manchester.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

Whitelaw, T., junr., Airdrie, painter, December 31.

Blackwood, G., Carronsore, manufacturing smith, December 26.

Thorburn, T., Glasgow, merchant, December 26.

Macowen, A. P., Edinburgh, banker, December 26.

Murdoch, W., Glasgow, painter, December 26.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.

Smith, J., and Ashby, L., Great Coram-street, linendrapers, first div. of 6s. 11d., on Wednesday, December 30, at Mr. Lee's, Aldermanbury.—Stanforth, T., Sheffield, brush manufacturer, first div. of 5s. 5d., any day, at Mr. Brewin's, Sheffield.—Jervis, G., Sheffield, brush manufacturer, first div. of 2s. 2d., any Saturday, at Mr. Brewin's, Sheffield.—Hind, T., Sheffield, joiner, first div. of 7d., any day, at Mr. Brewin's, Sheffield.—Hayley, J. M., Wheaton Ashton, Staffordshire, beer-seller—first div. of 2s. 10d., any Thursday, at Mr. Christie's, Birmingham.—Langman, F., Wolverhampton, wholesale druggist, first div. of 4s., any Thursday, at Mr. Bittleston's, Birmingham.—Robson, M. B., Monkwearmouth, second div. of 3s. (in addition to 6s. previously declared) any Saturday, at Mr. Baker's, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Tuesday, December 19th, 1854.

This "Gazette" contains a notice that the following place has been duly registered for the solemnization of marriages therein:—Independent Chapel, Elstead, Surrey.

BANKRUPTS.

Vines, J., and Smith, J., Dover-road, Borough, builders, December 28, January 30; solicitor, Mr. Hall, Moorgate-street.

Wilson, G., and Raynham, W., Notting-hill, builders, December 30, February 10; solicitor, Mr. Rushbury, Surrey-street, Strand.

Lough, J., Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn-fields, and Limebeer, J. J., St. James's-street, bootmakers and blocking manufacturers, December 30, February 10; solicitors, Messrs. Allen and Sons, Carlike-street.

Gibb, J., Blue Lion-yard, Upper North-place, Gray's Inn-road, livery stable-keeper, January 2, February 3; solicitors, Messrs. Young and Plews, Mark-lane.

Muskett, C., Diss, Norfolk, chymist, January 3, February 2; solicitors, Mr. Utton, Noble-street, Chesham; and Mr. Crum, Eye, Suffolk.

White, J. P., Mark-lane, merchant, December 27, January 31; solicitors, Messrs. Crowder and Maynard, Coleman-street.

Clumance, G., St. Alban's, baker, December 23, January 24; solicitors, Messrs. Croxley and Burn, Lombard-street; and Mr. Sampson, St. Alban's.

Cooper, J., Rowley Regis, Staffordshire, linendraper, January 2, 24; solicitors, Mr. Prescott, Stourbridge; and Messrs. Motteram and Knight, Birmingham.

Barratt, F. R., Stamford, music-seller, January 2, February 6; solicitors, Mr. Law, Stamford; and Mr. Hodgson, Birmingham.

Wyle, R. W., St. Leonard, Devonshire, wax scutcher, December 28, January 24; solicitors, Messrs. Bishop and Pitts, Exeter.

Wright, J. W., and L., Oxonhope, near Keighley, Yorkshire, worsted spinners, December 29, January 26; solicitors, Messrs. Wavell, Philbrick, and Foster, Halifax.

Allaway, W., Southport, dentist, January 4, 23; solicitor, Mr. Dodge, Liverpool.

Tonge, J. S., Liverpool, commission agent, December 29 January 19; solicitor, Mr. Roby, Liverpool.

Yates, W., Liverpool cotton broker, December 29, January 19; solicitors, Messrs. Evans and Son, Liverpool.

Fletcher, J., Unsworth Mill, near Bury, and Manchester, cotton manufacturer, January 10, 31; solicitors, Messrs. Grundy, Manchester.

Barron, B., Knowles, W. J., and Heyworth, J., Bacup, Lancashire, December 19, January 17; solicitors, Messrs. Howley and Son, Manchester.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

Waddell, T., Gartnraig, Lanarkshire, contractor, December 28, at 12 o'clock, at the Waverley Hotel, Glasgow.

Staples, C., Glasgow, wine merchant, December 28, at 2 o'clock, at the Waverley Hotel, Glasgow.

Herbertson, J. and T., Glasgow, wrights, January 2, at 12 o'clock, at the Globe Hotel, Glasgow.

DECLARATION OF DIVIDENDS.

Redfern, B., Manchester, stonemason, first div. of 4s. 6d., any Tuesday, at Mr. Pott's, Manchester.—Mason, R., Manchester, stationer, first div. of 4s. 6d., any Tuesday, at Mr. Pott's, Manchester.—Francis, J., Manchester, baker, second div. of 1s. 8d., on Tuesday, January 2, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Frasers, Manchester.—Halsted, J. and H. R., Bradford, wood-staplers, first div. of 3s., any day, at Mr. Hope's, Leeds.—Swire, H., Skipton, worsted manufacturer, first div. of 15s. 6d., on the separate estate, any day, at Mr. Hope's, Leeds.—Chapman, T., Leicester, worsted spinner, first div. of 3s., on the 1st and 8th of January, at Mr. Harris's, Nottingham.—Whitmore, J., Leicester, woolstapler, first div. of 6s., on the 1st and 8th of January, at Mr. Harris's, Nottingham.

Markets.

MARK LANE, LONDON, Monday, December 18, 1854.

We had a good supply of English Wheat this morning, which was taken off at 1s. $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. above last Monday's prices. The transactions in foreign were in retail at about a similar advance. Flour is $\frac{1}{2}$ sack dearer, but offered more freely. Barley is $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. higher. Beans and Peas dull at rather under last Monday's prices. The supply of Oats was moderate, and fine Corn realized 6d. $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. more than on Monday last, but at this advance buyers were cautious, and the trade was slow. Lined and Cakes firm. The current prices are under:—

BRITISH.		FOREIGN.	
Wheat—	s. s.	Wheat—	s. s.
Essex and Kent, Red 72 to 80	74 82	Dantzic	74 80
Ditto White	74 82	Konigsberg, Red	74 82
Lin., Norfolk, &		Pomeranian, Red	75 88
Yorkshire Red.	—	Rostock	75 88
Northumb. & Scotch 72	76	Danish & Holstein	73 78
Rye	48 50	East Friesland	70 79
Barley malting (new) 34	38	Petersburg	66 74
Distilling	—	Riga and Archangel	62 64
Malt (pale)	66 72	Polish Odessa	66 74
Beans, Mazagan	44 50	Marianopol	74 82
Ticks	—	Taganrog	64 66
Harrow	—	Egyptian	56 60
Pigeon	—	American (U.S.)	76 88
Peas, White	44 46	Barley Pomeranian	82 86
Grey	44 46	Konigsberg	—
Maple	44 46	Danish	39 37
Boilers	50 52	East Friesland	30 32
Tares (English)	58 60	Egyptian	26 28
Foreign	58 60	Odessa	36 38
Oats (English feed)	28 33	Beans—	
Flour, town made, per		Horse	44 46
Sack, of 280 lbs.	54 72	Pigeon	44 46
Linseed, English	70 74	Egyptian	40 42
Baltic	62 64	Peas, White	40 42
Black Sea	66 68	Oats—	
Hempseed	40 44	Dutch	25 30
Canaryseed	48 56	Jahde	24 30
Cloverseed per cwt. of		Danish	24 27
112lbs. English	48 52	Danish yellow feed	27 31
German	42 50	Swedish	27 29
French	42 46	Petersburg	27 29
American	44 46	Flour, per bar. of 196lbs.	
Linseed Cakes, 215 to 216 0		New York	38 45
Rape Cake 26 to 26 10 per ton		Spanish per sack	62 64
Rapeseed 234 to 236 per last		Caraway seed	32 34

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, December 18.

The show of foreign stock here, to-day, was very moderate, and greatly out of condition. With home-fed beasts we were seasonably well supplied, and their general quality was well suited for Christmas consumption. Notwithstanding that the trade was by no means so active as on Monday last, that day's prices were supported. The prime Scots were worth 5s. 4d. per 8lbs. From the northern grazing districts, we received 800 shorthorns; from other parts of England, 900 of various breeds; and from Scotland, 800 horned and polled Scots. The supply of Sheep was tolerably good, the time of year considered, and some breeds were of heavy weights. On the whole, the Mutton-trade rated steady, at fully last week's currency; the prime old Down's readily producing 5s. 3d. per 8lbs. Calves, the supply of which was limited, moved steadily, and the quotations had an upward tendency. Pigs met a slow sale, and the quotations were rather easier.

Per 8lbs. to sink the offal.

a. d. s. d.	a. d. s. d.	a. d. s. d.	a. d. s. d.
Coarse and inferior	3 6 3 8	Prime coarse wool-	4 6 4 10
Beasts	3 10 4 6	led Sheep	4 6 4 10
Second quality do.	3 10 4 6	Prime South Down	5 0 5 2
Prime large Oxen	4 5 4 10	Sheep	5 0 5 2
Prime Scots, &c.	5 0 5 4	Large coarse Calves	4 3 5 0
Coarse and inferior	3 8 3 10	Prime small do.	3 3 3 8
Sheep	3 8 3 10	Large Hogs	3 4 4 2
Second quality do.	4 0 4 4	Neat small Porkers	4 4 4 8

Storking Calves, 22s. to 29s.; and quarter-old store Pigs, 21s. to 28s. each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, December 11.

These markets are seasonably well supplied with each kind of meat; yet the demand is steady, as follows:—

Per 8lbs. by the carcass.

a. d. s. d.	a. d. s. d.	a. d. s. d.	a. d. s. d.
Inferior Beef	3 2 3 4	Small Pork	3 10 4 6
Middling do.	3 6 3 8	Inferior Mutton	3 4 3 8
Prime large do.	3 10 4 6	Middling do.	3 10 4 6
Do. small do.	3 4 3 8	Prime do.	4 6 4 8
Large Pork	3 0 3 8	Veal	3 8 3 8

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday.—The dealings in Irish butter last week were on a moderate scale. Prices were nearly stationary. An advance was asked for fine Carlow, Cork, and Kimerick, and partially realized. Foreign was in fair demand, on rather easier terms for some kinds. Bacon was not quite so much wanted, and scarcely so high in value. In Hams and Lard no change.

PRICES OF BUTTER, CHEESE, HAMS, &c.

a.	d.	s.	d.	a.	d.	s.	d.
Friesland per cwt.	100	108	Cheshire (new) per cwt.	68	80		
Kiel	104	112	Cheddar	68	80		
Dorset	110	118	Double Gloucester	60	70		
Carlow	100	108	Single do.	55	66		
Waterford	94	100	York Hams (new)	90	100		
Cork (new)	92	100	Westmoreland do.	90	96		
Kimerick	90	98	Irish do.	74	86		
Silgo	86	102	Wiltshire Bacon (dried)	68	68		
Fresh, per doz.	144	168	Do (green)	58	61		

BREAD.—The prices of Wheat and Bread in the Metropolis are from 10s. to 14d.; of Household do., 8d. to 9d. per 4lbs. loaf.

HOPS, BOWEN, Monday, Dec. 18.—Our market remains without any material alteration, and prices during the past week have continued firm, with a moderate demand.

SEEDS, Monday.—The trade for Cloverseed continues inactive, and confined to transactions in French and for arrival. In English red seed nothing as yet is doing. Carawayseed a very dull sale, with limited demand. In other seeds there is no variation to note.

POTATOES, BOWEN AND SMITHFIELDS, Monday, Dec. 18.—Since our last report, the arrivals of all kinds of Potatoes have been seasonably good, yet their general quality has fallen off. The imports have been only 20 bags from Hambro' and 3 baskets from Rotterdam. The demand is inactive, as follows:—Scotch Red, 9s. to 11s.; Scotch Regents, 10s. to 11s.; York Regents, 10s. to 12s.; Lancashire Regents, 9s. to 11s. per ton.

COVENT GARDEN, Saturday, December 16.—Foreign Peas are still plentiful, and prices for all kinds are lower, except for those of the finest quality. Among the different varieties we noticed Chantrelle, Glout Morceau, Winter Nells, and Bourde Die. Large importations of Apples from France have arrived during the week. Hothouse Grapes continue good; among them are some of the varieties of Black Hambro'. Oranges fetch from 2s. 6d. to 10s. per hundred; Chestnuts fetch from 16s. to 20s. per bushel; Spanish Nuts, from 14s. to 20s. per bushel; Barcelona, from 20s. to 24s.; French Almonds, 24s. per bushel; 66s. per cwt.; Kent Cobs, 180s. per 100 lbs.; and Brazil Nuts, 20s. per bushel. Cucumbers vary from 1s. to 1s. 6d. each. Spanish Onions may be bought at 2s. per dozen. Carrots and Turnips are abundant. Potatoes realize a heavy trade, at 10s. under last week's quotations. Lettuce fetch from 9d. to 1s. per score. Cut flowers consist of Pelargoniums, Chrysanthemums, Camellias, Chinese Primroses, Hebeas, Carnations, and Roses.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c.—A very limited business has been transacted in Flax this week. In prices, however, scarcely any change has taken place. All kinds of Hemp move off slowly, and the quotations have a downward tendency. Coir goods are heavy.

TALLOW, Monday, December 18.—A very moderate business has been transacted in our market since Monday last; in prices, however, no material change has taken place. To-day P.Y.C. on the spot is quoted at 64s. 3d.; and for forward delivery, 64s. 6d. per cwt. Rough Fat 3s. 6d. per 8lbs.

Particulars of Tallow.

	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.
Stock	55,040	65,401	49,548	46,128	32,387
Price of T.C.	37s. 9d. to 38s. 9d.	36s. 9d. to 38s. 9d.	35s. 9d. to 37s. 9d.	34s. 9d. to 36s. 9d.	33s. 9d. to 35s. 9d.
Delivery last week	2,356	3,198	2,123	1,380	1,914
Diff. from last week	59,198	60,568	59,341	59,336	45,532
Arrived last week	1,344	128	2,552	3,245	1,344
Diff. from last week	84,369	89,509	68,161	62,143	43,149
Price of Town	37s. 6d.	39s. 6d.	47s. 3d.	58s. 0d.	65s. 6d.

COALS, Monday.—A heavy market, with a downward tendency. —Hutton's, 22s.; Stewart's, 22s.; Haswell, 22s.; Gosforth, 19s.; Tanfield, 17s.; Belmont, 20s.; Hartley's, 18s.; Wylam, 19s.—67 fresh arrivals.

OILS, Monday.—Common Fish Oils are scarce, and held at full quotations. Common Oils are firmer. In Linseed very little was doing at 37s. per cwt. Rape is lower, refined being quoted at 44s. to 55s., brown, 52s. 6d. to 53s. Other Oils are slow in sale. Turpentine is dull and drooping.

WOOL, City, Monday.—The market is dull. The imports of wool into London last week were 4,523 bales, of which 2,091 were from New York, 1,530 from Peru, 717 from Port Phillip, 163 from Germany, and the rest from the Cape of Good Hope, &c. We have not the slightest improvement to notice in the demand for any kind of wool. The supply pressing for sale has rather increased, and prices are a shade in favour of buyers.

PRODUCE MARKETS.**MINCING-LANE, Dec. 19.**

SUGAR.—The market has been firm: 1,030 hhds. of West India sold, including the public sale of Barbadoes, at from 31s. to 37s. 6d., and the prices of Friday have been fully supported. 1,300 bags Mauritius were offered in public sale, held for high prices, and bought in at 32s. to 34s.; 1,200 bags Bengal were also offered and sold at previous rates; Mauritius kind, 32s. to 34s.; Benares, 37s. 6d. to 38s. 6d. The refined market quiet at about last week's prices: brown lumps, 42s. 6d. to 43s.; grocery, 43s. to 49s.

COFFEES.—100 casks Plantation Ceylon were offered, and a part sold at previous rates. 800 bags Native Ceylon were offered; the greater part was bought in at 45s.; the remainder sold at that price, which showed a slight decline.

TEA.—The market is firm, with a limited business done. Rice continues dull of sale; general quotations are not altered. Rum.—The demand is limited, and sales to any extent could not be made without giving way in price.

METALS.—Iron: Scotch pig remains quoted at 68s.; Spelter at 24 12s. 6d. to 24 15s.

COTTON.—We are again without transactions to report. **SALEPRICE.**—400 bags Bombay were offered in public sale and bought in: refraction 8s. to 29s., 21s. 6d. to 23s. Bengal of good refractions reported sold by private contract at full prices.

TALLOW.—The market dull at yesterday's prices. In other articles, no material alteration.

COTTON, Liverpool, December 19.—The market closed heavily, without change in prices. The sales amounted to 6,000 bales—500 for export, comprising 40 bales Pernam and Maranh, 64d.; 500 Surat, 3d. to 34d.; and 60 Sea Islands, 12d. to 16d. per lb.

Advertisements.**SIEGE OF SEVASTOPOL. — GREAT**

GLOBE.—A large MODEL of the country around Sevastopol, including Inkermann, Balaklava, and the Tchernaya, with the Positions of the English, French, and Turkish Armies, and the Siege Works, at the GREAT GLOBE, Leicester-square. Open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Admission One Shilling.

TONIC SOL-FA ASSOCIATION. — NEW

YEAR'S-DAY-MORNING JUVENILE MUSIC MEETING in FINSBURY CHAPEL, at 11 o'clock. A Choir of children taught in the method will sing the most popular of the pieces sung at their recent meetings; and in the course of the meeting Mr. CURWEN will give a short lesson and teach a simple tune to the young persons in the audience.—ADMISSION FREE.

The next **CHORAL MEETING** will be held in FINSBURY CHAPEL on Tuesday, January 9th, 1855, when two choruses from Handel's "Messiah," and a number of pieces will be sung. Tickets, 6d. and 1s. each, of Ward and Co., Paternoster-row; Purday, Maddox-street; and at the doors.

GRAND NATIONAL CEMETERY

FUNERAL COMPANY.—Having shares in three companies, about seven miles out of town, viz., at Finchley, Tooting, and Harrow, will undertake Adult Carriage Funerals and a Grave at either of the above cemeteries at the following charges:—First Class, £10. Second Class, £5. Third Class, £3 10s. Children's Carriage Funeral and Grave, £1 10s. The above includes every charge for the whole funeral.—Address, ANTILL and COMPANY, 65, Judd-street, New-road, and 150, Blackfriars-road, London.

TO MINISTERS, PROFESSIONAL MEN,

and OTHERS.—The Oxford Mixed Doeskin Trousers, price 21s. The Stratus Cloth Vest, 10s. 6d.; Cassock ditto, 12s.; the Clerical Frock Coat, £3 3s. 4. Dress Coat, £2 15s. S. BATTAM, Coat and Trousers Maker, 180, Tottenham-court-road; four doors south of Shoobred and Co's. Patterns of materials and directions for measuring, sent free per post.

THE IDONEOUS TROUSERS. — An

excellent fitting Garment, unsurpassed for ease, elegance, and comfort, in sitting, walking, and ESPECIALLY RIDING. Modern and best materials only employed. First price, One Guinea. Also, a large assortment of every style of Garment suitable for the present season, ready for immediate use, or to order at moderate charges. Particulars for self-measurement, &c., sent by post.

HENRY L. MARSHALL, 516 and 517, New Oxford-street. Entrance corner of Duke-street, leading to the British Museum.

H. J. and D. NICOLL, Merchant Tailors,

provide the most gentlemanly garments at the most moderate prices.

Paleonts for winter wear are two and three guineas each—Trousers for a guinea, and Waistcoats half a guinea. The graceful Togo, or sleeved Opera and Travelling Cape, are well recommended.

Gentlemen living far from those towns where the Patentees have recognised agents, are recommended to send the number of inches they measure round the chest and waist, with their exact height; and, if such be accompanied by a Post-office order or Banker's draft, their wishes can, in a few hours' notice, be responded to by H. J. and D. NICOLL, 114, 116, 118, 120, REGENT-STREET, and 23, CORNHILL, London.

THE EMPRESS OF CHINA'S TEA,

recommended by the Faculty for its Purity, and sold by nearly 1,000 First Class Tea Dealers on account of its Superior Quality.

THIS IS NOW THE POPULAR TEA OF THE DAY, and the best 4s. Tea in the Kingdom.

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for Coughs, Asthma, Hoarseness, Indigestion, Palpitation of the Heart, Croup, Hooping Cough, Influenza, Chronic Strains, Bruises, Lumbago or Pains in the Back, Spinal and Rheumatic Affections, Diseases of the Chest and Local Pains.

Dear Sirs,—Having suffered many years from severe attacks of Rheumatic pains, I feel great pleasure in telling you that I have derived great benefit from your invaluable Plaster. I shall most certainly recommend it to all my friends, all medical aid being of no use whatever. You are at leave to publish this in any way you may think proper.—I am, dear Sirs, yours truly, Leamington, Aug. 12th, 1854.

H. MAYOR, M.A.

HOOPING COUGH CURED.

Sirs,—I have used your Roper's Plasters for myself and children for several months with decided benefit for Hooping Cough; three of my children being comparatively well since their application. I am, Sirs, yours respectfully, Ash Cottage, Stalsfield, near Faversham, Kent.

Haydon Vicarage, Stalsfield, April 27th, 1854.

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Unprincipled Shopkeepers, for the sake of gain, have vended spurious imitations. Purchasers are therefore cautioned to NOTICE!—The words "ROPER'S ROYAL BATH PLASTERS," engraved on the Government Stamp.

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Full-sized Plasters, 1s. 14d.; and for Children, 9d. each; or direct by Post on receipt of 1s. 4d., or 1s. each in Postage Stamps. For Family use, and Charitable purposes, &c.,—in Tin cases, at 4s. 6d., 11s., 22s., 33s. each case.

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WEEKLY DISPATCH, every week until further notice.

The unexampled interest which attaches to every incident connected with the operation of the Allied Armies in the East has determined the Proprietors of the *Weekly Dispatch* to devote a greater space to the intelligence from the seat of war than the ordinary limits of this, the largest newspaper published, could possibly afford, and, with the view of giving the amplest details, they have resolved upon the issue of a

SERIES OF SUPPLEMENTS, GRATIS,

which will include every particular of interest connected with the Siege and decision of the contest at Sebastopol, and will be continued whenever demanded by the progress of the Campaign.

By the publication of these Supplements the portion of the paper usually devoted to incidents of domestic and political importance will be reserved intact, and the engrossing subject of the War will receive the fullest and most varied illustration.

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The Year 1855 bids fair to be one of the most important and eventful of modern history. On the 6th of January, 1855, will be issued the first number of a new volume of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, and not merely a new volume, but of a New Year—each volume being perfect and complete in itself—containing, for the time, a faithful record, pictorial and descriptive, of all events of interest in every part of the world. To the limited portion of the Public who do not subscribe to this Journal, it may be stated that no period could be selected more opportune for commencing—the whole expense being but twenty-six shillings per annum, exclusive of double numbers, which are issued on rare occasions, when it would be impossible to crowd the important events and Engravings into a single number; for this small sum the subscriber will receive twenty-four large pages—seventy-two columns—of the most interesting information, carefully selected from the news of the week, interspersed with a variety of charming articles on the chief topics of the day.

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LEVER TRUSS, requiring no steel spring round the body, is recommended for the following peculiarities and advantages:—1st. Facility of application; 2nd. Perfect freedom from liability to chafe or excoriate; 3rd. It may be worn with equal comfort in any position of the body, by night or day; 4th. It admits of every kind of exercise without the slightest inconvenience to the wearer, and is perfectly concealed from observation.

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